



FAMILY DEVOTION

ACTS 3: ALL ABOUT JESUS

SUMMARY

In Acts Chapter 3, Peter and John encounter a lame beggar at the Temple gate called “Beautiful.” The man is miraculously healed in the name of Jesus. He immediately celebrates and praises God. Peter exclaims to the onlookers that it is not his power, but from God. Peter gives evidence from Old Testament prophecies that Jesus is Messiah. At the start of Ch. 4, the priests and guards are unhappy with Peter and John. They have them arrested and thrown into prison. However, 5,000 men are saved by the Gospel!

QUESTIONS

- A lame beggar would have been an outcast in biblical times. This beggar would have been treated ugly while he begged at a gate called “Beautiful.” Does God see this man as beautiful? What happens to him? How does he respond to his healing? (Acts 3:6-10)
- We all have times when we judge, ignore and/or treat others unfairly. How does God want you to treat people?
- Peter gives what reason for how this beggar was healed? (3:16)
- Religious persecution is hostility to another because of what one believes. However, God is at work even when we are mistreated. Who was upset with Peter and John? (4:1) Why? (4:2) How are they punished? (4:3) What good occurs out of the situation? (4:4)

ILLUSTRATIONS

- **Prophecy:** Old Testament has hundreds of predictions about the coming Messiah (“Anointed One”). Jesus is the Messiah from these prophecies. Look up these well-known prophecies and fulfillments: A. Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1); B. Heir to King David’s Throne (2 Samuel 7:12-13; Luke 1:32-33); C. Sacrifice for Sin (Isaiah 53:5-12; Romans 5:6-8).
- **Persecution:** Jesus tells followers to expect persecution (John 16:1-4). Every Christian will experience persecution, but we especially need to pray for Christians experiencing it severely. Go to this website, look at the world map, and pray for these nations:
<https://www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/world-watch-list/>

LIVING IT OUT

1. Take non-perishable food items to Manna.
2. Make a list of people who are suffering physically and commit to both pray for them and seek ways to help alleviate their suffering.

PRAYER

Thank God for the immeasurable blessing of knowing Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Ask God to fill your heart with the same love that He has for the hurting and oppressed.

READ FOR THIS WEEK

ACTS 3:1-4:4

MAIN TOPICS

- Evangelism
- Healing
- Compassion
- Old Testament Prophecies About Jesus
- Speaking Truth in Love
- Persecution

CROSS REFERENCES

- Deuteronomy 18:15-19
- Isaiah 53
- James 1:22-27

CHILDREN BIBLES

- **Big Picture Story Bible:** “God’s New Kingdom Spreads, Part 24, 418-426.

MEMORY VERSE

JAMES 1:27

READ FOR NEXT WEEK

ACTS 4:5-31, 5:17-42

