

### **Acts 3:11-26 (New International Version)**

<sup>11</sup>While the beggar held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. <sup>12</sup>When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. <sup>14</sup>You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. <sup>15</sup>You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup>By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.

<sup>17</sup>"Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. <sup>18</sup>But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ<sup>[a]</sup> would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, <sup>20</sup>and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus. <sup>21</sup>He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets. <sup>22</sup>For Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you. <sup>23</sup>Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from among his people.'<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>24</sup>"Indeed, all the prophets from Samuel on, as many as have spoken, have foretold these days. <sup>25</sup>And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.'<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>26</sup>When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

#### **Footnotes:**

- a. [Acts 3:18](#) Or Messiah; also in verse 20
- b. [Acts 3:23](#) Deut. 18:15,18,19
- c. [Acts 3:25](#) Gen. 22:18; 26:4

### Acts 3:11-26

Possible Starter question: Have you ever experienced a time when the words of a sermon seemed to speak directly to you?

Transitional comment: In Acts chapter 3, Peter preached a sermon to those who gathered around to see a man that he and John had just healed at the temple..

- Pray for the Holy Spirit's leading (if you haven't already prayed)

#### Read and Overview observations:

- Let's listen as someone reads our passage aloud.
- Now take several minutes by yourself to study the sermon that Peter gives. Look for repeated words and ideas. Note Peter's tone.
  - What words and ideas were repeated?
  - What was his tone?

#### First Section – Acts 3:11-16

- Read Acts 3:11-16
  - What word or words would you use to describe Peter's approach to those who were listening?
  - What is the main point that Peter is trying to convey in these verses? What aspect of their worldview was Peter challenging? What made it feel so personal to his hearers?
    - A Has your worldview ever been directly challenged like this? How did you respond?

#### Second Section – Acts 3:16-23

- In this section, what are some of the ways that Peter attempted to identify with his hearers? What was he appealing to that they would have been familiar with?
  - I Beyond being useful in identifying with his Jewish listeners, why do you think the scriptures were so vitally important in Peter's message?
    - A Has the Bible become more than just another book to you? When did you first understand it as God's word?
- What was Peter calling his listeners to do? (*Repent!*)
  - I How hard would it have been for them to do this? Why?

O What part does Jesus play in Peter's message?

Third Section – Acts 3:24-26

I At the end of the day, would you consider Peter's message good news or bad news for his hearers? How has Peter's tone shifted throughout his sermon?

Summary

O How would you explain the connection between the healed cripple and the salvation of Peter's hearers?

A Which aspect of Peter's message is most pertinent for you in your life today? Why?

Prayer together: for the truth of God to be at work in the lives of each person in your LIFE Community.

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- a. BIG idea: Christ followers allow the truth of God's word to transform their lives.
- b. Key verse/idea: <sup>19</sup>Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, <sup>20</sup>and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.
- c. KEY: O = Observation; I = Interpretation; A = Application (or C = Challenge).

Advice to study leaders:

- d. Complement your OIA questions with "process questions" (what else? what more? What do others of you see/think?).
- e. Determine the core questions you'll ask (know which ones to skip if pressed for time).
- f. Always reword questions in words are comfortable for you (and, if the question doesn't make sense to you, then discard it.)
- g. When you ask questions, give people ample time to think and respond. How long do you wait? Take your time; don't rush people but encourage their participation. And avoid answering your own questions!
- h. Timing/pacing: allocate your time and move forward gently, with a steady pace.
- i. Application: Pace the study to conclude with "difference making" application.
- j. Secondary texts—use other texts very sparingly, even if they are relevant. Otherwise, other texts will push you more into the "teacher role," rather than that of facilitator. It also can cause some people to feel distracted or de-powered.
- k. If you are utilizing this "on-line" study and not part of the OASIS course, I recommend that you get the 1-volume commentary entitled New Bible Commentary, Revised (21<sup>st</sup> Century Edition, IVP). It is well worth the \$40.