### **ACTS, PART 4: "THE MEANS TO AN END"**

Pastor Josh Pardee - October 27, 2019



# **SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE**

#### Acts 3:1-8

1 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. 2 Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. 3 When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. 4 Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" 5 So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

6 Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." 7 Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. 8 He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.

Peter acknowledges what he doesn't have. In doing so, he is now freed to offer what he does have.

#### Acts 3:7-12

7 Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. 8 He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. 9 When all the people saw him walking and praising God, 10 they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. 11 While the man held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. 12 When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, 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?

13 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.

The Bible is a means to an end. It is designed to lead us to the person of Jesus, to the love of the Father, which happens through the empowerment of the Spirit.

#### John 5:39-40

39 You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, 40 yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

# **GROUP DISCUSSION**

Would you say there is importance to rhythms in life? How can we benefit from that on a personal level? (i.e. rest, finances, time management)

If you are someone who is actively trying to seek God, what practices do you have, what spiritual rhythms do you have?

## As a life group, discuss Pastor Josh's quote:

"There is no right answer, but I do think that rhythms are very important. We talk about men of faith, or women of faith, I propose we need men and women who are faithful. Who walk daily in the ways of the Lord. They weren't panicked, overwhelmed, they were consistent and showed up and made their schedule around being faithful."

Are you able to hear what God is trying to do in the moment? Can you adapt? Can you recognize that at this moment the Kingdom is trying to break in? Or are you so set on your schedule?

How would your time with God change if you spent with the WORD, rather than in the Word?

How can our group pray for you this week?