

Acts

PASTOR GLEN BARNES
FEBRUARY 19, 2023

OF THE APOSTLES

First
FIRST THURSDAY

Let the Mission Begin

“ Praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”

ACTS 2:47 (NIV)

The Church begins and the question is what will it become?

“Church can be like a _____ or a _____.” ~ Lyle Schaller

Peter and John Healed the Disabled Man

“ 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.”

ACTS 3:1-2 (NIV)

“ 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.’”

ACTS 3:3-6 (NIV)

Peter Speaks to the Crowd

“ ‘You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶ 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 completely healed him, as you can all see.’ ¹⁷ ‘Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸ But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹ Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,’”

ACTS 3:15-19 (NIV)

“ But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.”

ACTS 4:4 (NIV)

God Uses People Who...

¹ Are Not Obsessed with _____ .

Compare Peter in Acts 1-4
with Luke 22:54-62

² See _____ of people around them.

“ Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, ‘Look at us!’”

~ Acts 3:4

God Uses People Who...

3 Don't Focus on what they _____.

“ 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.’” ~ Acts 3:6

4 Make it _____.

The consistent message of the Apostles in Acts:

Jesus came, was crucified and resurrected.
Jesus forgives sin. Jesus is coming again.

So _____ !

Peter Preaches to the Authorities

“ ‘Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.’

13 When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus”

ACTS 4:12-13 (NIV)

Peter and John Released from Prison

“ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God.”

ACTS 4:23-24 (NIV)

5 God Uses People Who _____.

“ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” ~ Acts 4:29-30

Resources for Today Message:

Posse vs Fortress; Pastor Rene Schlaepfer
The First Miracle; Pastor Tim Keller

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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- 1 - This week's message said the church could be like a posse or a fortress. In your experience which do you think the church is most often like and why?
- 2 - Read Acts 3:1-9. Describe what this experience would have been like for the healed man? What do Peter and John do that could help teach us how to interact with people, especially people in need?
- 3 - Read Acts 3:10-26. What stands out to you about Peter's message to the crowd in these verses?

- 4 - Read Acts 4:1-22. What stands out to you about Peter's message to the religious authorities? What differences or similarities do you see between Peter's two messages?
- 5 - Read Acts 4:23-31 (especially v29-30). How do you think you would have responded if you had just been released from prison and told not to talk about Jesus anymore? How do the early believers respond?
- 6 - Of the five traits of the person God uses which one could you put into practice this week?

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