

## **Energized for Mission - Beggars Can't Be Choosers**

Acts 3:1-26

There's an expression that isn't used nearly as often as it should: \_\_\_\_\_ can't be choosers. If you are in \_\_\_\_\_ or are dependent on provision from others, "*You get what you get and you don't get upset.*"

This is an important principle when it comes to God's \_\_\_\_\_. We see it at work in Acts 3 as God works a miracle through Peter in the life of a poor beggar outside the temple. He asks for \_\_\_\_\_. Peter gives him something else, "*I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give you.*"

Mission is not about \_\_\_\_\_ people what they want or ask for.

It's not even about what they "\_\_\_\_\_" so much. People "NEED" a lot!

It's giving them what we have available to give. We don't always have \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_, or control.

But we can always give away \_\_\_\_\_.

Not everyone wants Jesus, because Jesus comes to us as THE \_\_\_\_\_, THE \_\_\_\_\_, and The \_\_\_\_\_.  
The Way of Jesus is a way of difficulty, suffering, and death. It calls us to something different. \_\_\_\_\_!  
The Truth is our way leads to death, destruction, and damnation. We are sinners that \_\_\_\_\_ it!  
The Life means that a life without \_\_\_\_\_ ain't all it's cracked up to be, now or later.

But *beggars can't be choosers*. We are not in a position to \_\_\_\_\_. There's nothing we can do about it.

That's why God sent Jesus. Even though there are some \_\_\_\_\_ realities about our situation, God sent Jesus to be The Way, The Truth, and The Life in more ways than one:

Jesus is The Way to a \_\_\_\_\_ far beyond our wildest dreams!

Jesus is The Truth that despite how far we've fallen, we're immensely \_\_\_\_\_ and valuable to God.

Jesus is The Life that we truly \_\_\_\_\_ for now and into eternity.

Peter gives what he has and delivers \_\_\_\_\_ in every way he can, whether it is pleasant or not. In this case God gives the \_\_\_\_\_ first as a "spoonful of sugar" that helps the "medicine go down." But sometimes the unpleasant medicine must be delivered before the sweet stuff can follow. We must be prepared for BOTH possibilities as we live as \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus where we live, work, and play.

*How is the Holy Spirit showing you and others how we have tried too hard to give people what they want?*

*What is the Holy Spirit revealing what you DO have to give?*

*How is the Holy Spirit revealing how we may have shied away from some unpleasant truths?*

*How is the Holy Spirit leading you to be a more faithful witness for Christ and his glory and his purposes?*

*What are you going to DO about it?*