

• *1Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. 2And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple; 3who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms. 4And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us." 5So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. 6Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." 7And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. 8So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them —walking, leaping, and praising God. 9And all the people saw him walking and praising God. 10Then they knew that it was he who sat begging alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. Acts 3:1-10*

- What we have is a guy who's making the best of a bad situation.
- He has been lame from his mother's womb, it's all he's ever known, it's all he's ever seen. It's one thing to have walked once, at least you can remember what it was like, but when all you have ever seen is lameness, then it's rare that you get a desire for wholeness.
- If all you've ever seen is poverty, if all you've ever seen is domestic violence...you like the idea of happily married, but you will pick somebody who's mean, 'cause the nice guy is boring, and the nice guy who fell in love, "Oh, I don't know, he's nice but I'm just not attracted to him".
- **You always want what your normal is.**
- Any time you have been lame all of your life, broke all of your life, intimidated all of your life, insecure all of your life, angry all of your life, surrounded by angry, vicious people all of your life, you become closed off to anything better.
- **Gate called Beautiful. Gate called Healing. Breakthrough. Blessing. Prosperity.**
- **I Am Open!- to healing, deliverance, blessing, different, better, Change...**

- The Power of Pentecost has given them a new capacity they had not experienced before.
- **The infilling of the Spirit had given them the gift of faith.**
- Prior to Pentecost they had felt dependence and loyalty, but they had no faith.
- What they were experiencing was the abundant life Jesus had talked about. For the first time they understood Calvary and the empty tomb.
- This new capacity to believe in what Christ had done for them began to grow into an expectant confidence in what He could do through them.

- **A mind once stretched NEVER goes back to its original size.**

Are you open to CHANGE?

- *What has stopped you from walking through the gate?*
- *What has had you living in almost?*
- *What has been within reach but out of your possession?*

Is the Church open?

- **All of the church is stepping over a potential miracle.**

- The church has lost its desire to see people healed, transformed, set free.
 - We now have books- 10 ways to make lame work. You're not insane to wanna be lame. ***You don't have to change...We will!***
- How many lame people do we have in the church and around the church while we're all coming to have church, and no has the power to change them.
- ***Who do you have a hand for?*** You might be stepping over your next miracle.
- **God doesn't wait for church to start before he starts working.**

Are You Open?

- **Cup-** It's amazing how you can get used to a sound and you don't notice it until it's gone.
 - *Friend lived by train tracks.*
- *How many people have given up on the chance of a miracle and have settled for getting by?*
- ***Have you been sitting by an open gate because you've been closed?***

- **It's incredible how everything going right still can't overcome the one thing going wrong.**
- **Excuses validate your quit.**
- ***What are you going to do when God heals your limp?***
 - When He takes away your lameness. When He opens the door for great job but you have to work.
- **We've bedazzled our burden and accessorized our attack.**
- If you ever get up then people will stop feeling sorry for you.
- ☑ ***Are you open to change?***
 - *What have you accepted?*
 - **Short Changed**
 - Cheated... Didn't get a fair shot.
 - **Stolen Change**
 - **My mom buying laundry detergent.**
 - *Do you feel like somebody robbed you?*
 - **Lost Change**
 - Bad decisions, lost trust.
 - *Do you really think God created you to beg?*

- *You don't have to beg to be saved. healed, delivered*
- **Sitting on your Change- WC**
- ☑ ***You either living Why? or Why Not?***
 - **YOU GET WHAT YOU EXPECT!**
 - **Expecting. Price Is Right**
 - **God's about to upset your EXPECTATIONS!**
- ☑ **It was good that they didn't have what he wanted.**
 - **If they would have had what he wanted they couldn't have given him what he needed!**
 - **9th Hour- Jesus Cried- It is finished!**
 - **9th Hour- First miracle.**
 - Rise. I've heard that before.
 - **God is saying: I opened a tomb so you'll never be stuck outside!**
 - **We ask God to solve small problems. He wants to change your life.**
 - **What if you've been asking too small?**