

People are CRAZY

RESPONSES TO PEOPLE IN NEED

1) RELIEF = IMMEDIATE & TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE

2) RESTORATION = WALKING TOGETHER TOWARD A GRACE-FILLED FUTURE

Acts 3:1-5

*One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer — at three in the afternoon. Now a man crippled 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. When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for **money**. Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” So the man gave them his attention, **expecting to get something from them**.*

Acts 3:6-8

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

God, we need Your RESCUE

Help me serve as a RESTORER

1) HELP ME UNDERSTAND WHAT PEOPLE NEED - NOT JUST WHAT THEY WANT

Acts 3:6

*Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of **Jesus Christ** of Nazareth, walk.*

2) HELP ME SEE FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE AS PEOPLE EXPERIENCE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR CHOICES

Galatians 6:7

*Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man **reaps what he sows**.*

3) HELP ME REMEMBER THAT I NEED YOUR RESCUE EVERY DAY

Ps 70:5

Yet I am poor and needy; come quickly to me, O God. You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay.

Talk it over:

1. How do you typically react when you encounter the “GRABBERS” in your life?
2. Read ACTS 3:1-10 - What do you think would have happened to the crippled man if Peter and John had given him the money he had asked for?
3. Why do you think our typical first reaction to needy people is to give them relief instead of restoration?
What kind of difference could the church make if we focused on restoration instead of relief?
4. What can you do to become a restorer in your community?