



Leader Guide

See and Hear

February 26, 2023

Main Passage: Acts 3:11-26

Theological Theme

The first miraculous healing after Pentecost and Jesus's ascension drew a lot of attention. Peter took advantage of the opportunity to boldly preach the gospel to the gathered crowd.

Introduction

- ❓ Have you ever played Simon Says? How easy or difficult is it for you to be deceived in this game?
- ❓ Why do you think people sometimes follow what they see more than what they hear?

1. Time to Hear (Acts 3:11-16)

Although Peter and John had been part of the man's miraculous healing, they were quick to make sure no one gave them the credit or glory for the healing. The crowd was amazed when they saw the lame man walking and dancing in praise to the Lord. **When God's work is on display, people will be interested in what they see.** Peter questioned why they were amazed since they also had been around when Jesus lived and performed other miracles.

- ❓ Why do you think the crowd was so amazed by the healing they saw?
- ❓ Why was it important that the people recognize the role they played in rejecting Jesus? Why must we also recognize this before coming to faith in Jesus?
- ❓ Application: How can our group be intentional about serving and doing good in the name of Jesus? What is our mission project this quarter?

2. Call to Repentance (Acts 3:17-21)

Peter's message continued with a personal connection. He referred to the people as brothers and sisters. Instead of condemning them for their role in the death of Jesus, he connected with them over the fact that all people sin and reject the Lord. He sought to build a bridge with them so that they might be more receptive to what he was saying.

- ❓ Why is a personal connection often effective in preaching and teaching?
- ❓ What is your experience with repentance? How would you describe repentance to a friend?
- ❓ Application: What do you need to repent from today so that you can experience refreshment from the Lord?

3. Warning (Acts 3:22-26)

The Jewish people were very familiar with Moses and knew his teachings well. Peter stressed that the prophet Moses spoke about was Jesus the Messiah. There are still those today who struggle to recognize that Jesus is the One they have been waiting for and need so desperately.

- ❓ Who do you know who seems to be looking for Jesus but missing Him? What can you do to help them? (Prayer? Get coffee with them? Do a project together?)
- ❓ What have you put off accepting and believing about Jesus though you may have heard it several times before?

Questions to Guide Your Group's Discussion

1. What does this passage say?
2. What did this passage mean to its original audience?
3. What does this passage tell us about God?
4. What does this passage tell us about man?
5. What does this passage demand of me?
6. How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (*How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?*)
7. How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?

*Adapted from Seven Arrows by Matt Rogers pastor of The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC

Here's How to Become a Christ-Follower:

Read the following verses and ask after each one: "What does this say to me?"

- **All have sinned:** Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8
- **The wages of sin:** Romans 6:23 & John 3:18
- **But while we were sinners, salvation was provided:** Romans 5:8
- **Become a Christ-follower:** Romans 10:9-10 Confess and Believe

Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians.
- Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).