



# ACTS: LIVING ON MISSION

**Acts 3:1–26**

**Week of July 30, 2023**

**Start at 9:50–10:00**

**Belong:** *Use 5–10 minutes as an opportunity to get to know one another. The questions below are written for people to open-up and to know the group members.*

Take a **few minutes** to hear about your group members' week.

Ask the question[s] below:

- How effective are you at describing and explaining a sequence of events to someone else?
- **If a stranger or someone who was homeless were to ask you for help, how would you respond? Why?**

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**10:00–10:05**

**Believe:** *Use 5 minutes to read this week's assigned Scriptures then highlight each verse that helps you to understand the passage better. Include the book, chapter and verse(s).*

Have a group member read **Acts 3:1–10** aloud.

- Have the class summarize this section in **1–2 sentences**.
- What is the most challenging aspect of this text for you?

Have a group member read **Acts 3:11–26** aloud.

- Have the class summarize this section in **1–2 sentences**.
- What is the most challenging aspect of this text for you?

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**10:05–10:15**

**Build:** *Use about 10 minutes to engage the passage and wrestle with its meaning.*

**Last week**, we discussed the meaning of "fellowship" in the early church and the importance of feasting on God's Word. If you remember, we asked a question in our "BUILDING" time. This question was does "fellowship" cost the church anything today AND do we truly want "fellowship."

This week, the sermon camped out in **Acts 3:1–26**. In this section, Peter & John heal a lame man and then preach with **boldness** [this is a word you will hear a lot in Acts as the power of the Holy Spirit works in the early church] when a crowd is drawn to see the lame man walk. This is a different Peter than the Peter we've seen in the Gospels. He is preaching the full gospel of Jesus Christ – with boldness and with an understanding of the work of Jesus on the cross. We can also see in this passage an acknowledgment and care for those who are marginalized. Marginalized is defined as: a person or group treated as insignificant or peripheral.

**In your opinion, how is Peter suddenly so bold? [...considering that at the end of the Gospels, he was in hiding with the disciples and he told a boldface lie to a teenage girl when she confronted him about his association with Jesus]**

- **Do you think you are like Peter in the Gospels OR like Peter in Acts?**

10:15-10:35

**Become:** Use about 15 minutes to apply what you have read. How can this help me? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What is God saying to me?

What did this lame man do for a living?

- Also, how did he get to the Beautiful gate each day? [vs.2]
- **Read Mark 2:2-5** – Do you see any parallels?
- How did the crowds react to the guys in **Acts 3 & Mark 2**? How does the church act?

What is the first thing Peter and John do when he asks for money [3:4]?

- In your opinion, what does this passage teach us about caring for a person's physical **AND** spiritual needs? Does the church care for physical **AND** spiritual needs? Give an example.

**Read Acts 3:11-16.** What were Peter's accusations on the crowd in 3:14-15? [**You denied Him & you killed Him**]

- What is Peter implying about sin?
  - Does Peter imply that we "victims" of our sin?
  - **OR**, Is Peter implying that it was our deliberate sin that nailed Jesus to the Cross?

Does "**ignorance**" make you *less* guilty? [vs. 17]

- Does "ignorance" provide opportunities for mercy and for repentance?

What does "**seasons of refreshing**" [vs. 20 - CSB] look like today in the life of a new follower of Jesus Christ?

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10:35 – Class ends at 10:45

**Begin:** Use the last 5-10 minutes for prayer. It's important that we not only hear and discuss God's Word but respond to it. (James 1:22)

**How should it change the way you pray, think, speak or act this week?**

**At the end of the conversation, spend some time praying as a group. Here are some prompts:**

- Spend some group time-sharing requests and praying specifically for them.
- Spend some time praying for FBC and that we would be encouraged and hopeful in how God is working in and through FBC Portland.

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## Additional Resources:

**Blue Letter Bible: Acts 3:** Check out the QR code to learn more.



**Precept Austin: Acts 3:** Check out the QR code to learn more.

