

# WEEK 2: WEDNESDAY NIGHT

## SMALL GROUP GUIDE

ONE  
STEP  
SMALL

### BIG IDEA

Take another step – pray for others.

### BIBLE

Acts 3; John 17:6–19

### WELCOME!

Hey guys!

Welcome back! We're in week 2 of our new series called "One Small Step!"

This series provides a snap shot look at the **Book of Acts** to learn from the first Christians.

Through their stories of faith and bravery, all of you will learn how to take the first step of believing in Jesus – to learning how the Holy Spirit makes us brave. And trust me – you won't want to skip the last step of telling others about Jesus! So, make sure you're here EVERY week!

Ok...let's get started!

### "Star Cards"

- Attendance
- Bring Someone?
- Bring Your Bibles
- New Bible Verse! – Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

### MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

- "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

Great Job!

### ACTIVITY | Where I Live, Learn, And Play

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Set up three separate areas labeled, "Live," "Learn" and "Play." At each station, have kids think about at least one person they can pray for and say a quick prayer for them. You might want to have leaders at each station to guide them. Invite kids to rotate from station to station.*
- Name someone you see where you live.

- Is it a family member, neighbor, or delivery person?
- What is one thing you can pray for on their behalf?
- Name someone you see where you learn.
  - Is it a classmate, instructor, or even someone you don't get along with so much?
  - What is one thing you can pray for on their behalf?
- Name someone you see where you play.
  - Is it a coach, a friend, or even someone you play with at the park?
  - What is one thing you can pray for on their behalf?
- No matter where you are in the galaxy, there is always someone who could use your prayer. So instead of backing away from these opportunities, take a step forward. **Take another step – pray for others.**

This isn't always easy right? I mean it takes some trust – some preparation – and practice...

Kind of like my boy Felix Baumgartner – have you guys heard of him?

- Felix is a skydiver. That usually means jumping out of an airplane - but did you know that one time - he jumped from space!
- As he traveled back to Earth, he started to go so fast that he spun out of control. His friends and family were watching closely as he pulled through that rough patch and regained control.
- You see practice and preparation allowed Felix to know what to do at all times.

And that's what it's like when we pray – and pray for others.

- You've got to practice talking to others – to know what's going on in their lives.
- AND you've got to practice and prepare in prayer – by talking to God every single day...in fact maybe even multiple times each day!

We have to take a step of faith and – pray for others...

And wouldn't you know it – that's our BIG IDEA for the day!

**BIG IDEA** | Take another step – pray for others.

- Say it with me...
- Take another step – pray for others.

IN our Bible story today, we're going to learn about 2 guys who took their ministry to the next step by trusting in God and putting their faith in Jesus Christ to practice.

They were Peter and John. Let's open up our Bibles to Acts 3 and discover how Peter and John helped a man through the power of Jesus Christ.

**SCRIPTURE** | Acts 3 (Peter and John at the Beautiful Gate)

[Read or Summarize Acts 3:1-10]

3 Now Peter and John were going up to the temple for the time of prayer at three in the afternoon. <sup>2</sup>A man who was lame from birth was being carried there. He was placed each day at the temple gate called Beautiful, so that he could beg from those entering the temple. <sup>3</sup>When he saw Peter and John about to enter the temple, he asked for money. <sup>4</sup>Peter, along with John, looked straight at him and said, "Look at us." <sup>5</sup>So he turned to them, expecting to get something from them. <sup>6</sup>But Peter said, "I don't have silver or gold, but what I do have, I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!" <sup>7</sup>Then, taking him by the right hand he raised him up, and at once his feet and ankles became strong. <sup>8</sup>So he jumped up and started to walk, and he entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God. <sup>9</sup>All the people saw him walking and praising God, <sup>10</sup>and they recognized that he was the one who used to sit and beg at the Beautiful Gate of the temple. So they were filled with awe and astonishment at what had happened to him.

Now remember, by the time our Bible story occurs - Jesus had already gone up to heaven and He gave His disciples some instructions – **does anyone remember what that they were?** *[to go and tell the world about Jesus Christ]*

- Yes, to go out into all the world and tell everyone the good news of Jesus!

So they did just that.

Peter and John [they used to be Jesus' disciples – now they were His apostles] were just two of the guys who obeyed Jesus' command.

And one day, they were going to the Temple and encountered someone who was looking for some money.

- But they didn't have money to give the poor man - but they knew there was something else the man wanted that they could provide.

The reason they had come to the temple at that time was for the traditional time of prayer – the Jewish people would pray upwards of 3x's every day.

So Peter said prayed to God in Jesus' name so that this man could walk.

- And guess what?!?! The lame man got up and walked!

- But, he didn't just walk . . . he jumped and praised God.

And did you catch what the people around the man did??

- They were filled with awe and amazement – show me your best awe and amazement face...

Let's keep reading to see what happens next!

**[Read or Summarize Acts 3:11-16]**

**<sup>11</sup> While he was holding on to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astonished, ran toward them in what is called Solomon's Colonnade. <sup>12</sup> When Peter saw this, he addressed the people: "Fellow Israelites, why are you amazed at this? Why do you stare at us, as though we had made him walk by our own power or godliness? <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and denied before Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup> You denied the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer released to you. <sup>15</sup> You killed the source of life, whom God raised from the dead; we are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup> By faith in his name, his name has made this man strong, whom you see and know. So the faith that comes through Jesus has given him this perfect health in front of all of you.**

The people who saw what had happened were amazed that such a thing could happen. Peter reminded everyone that it wasn't Peter or John that had done this – in fact this should've come as no surprise to the people.

- This was the work of God!

Peter told the people that they had seen amazing things that God did through Jesus – and that now - they had the power by the Holy Spirit to be used by God, too!

- One of these ways is by praying to God for others.

Prayer is simply talking to God.

- That's what Peter and John did in this Bible story.
- They didn't have to use fancy words or make it super long.

Talking to God on behalf of others is a way we can show we care and trust God to show up!

Because they believed God was loving and all-powerful, they were able to take this next step of asking God to do something they couldn't do on their own! And what seemed like *one small step* led to a giant leap of joy for the man who was healed and everyone who saw it happen!

You can pray silently, out loud, by yourself, or with a group. Any time you can, **take another step** – pray for others.

## DISCUSSION

- SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS
  - Why were Peter and John going to the temple? *To pray.*
  - What did Peter and John do for the man at the temple gate? *They called on the name of Jesus so that he could walk.*
  - Read Acts 3:16. How was the man able to walk? *By faith in the name of Jesus.*
  - Read John 17:15. What did Jesus pray for? *That God would protect his disciples.*
- APPLICATION QUESTIONS
  - Why do you think we should pray for others?
  - Designate a time every day that you can set aside to pray for someone else. When would that be?
  - Name some things you might want to pray about on behalf of others (family, friends, teachers).

## OPTIONAL VIDEO | *One Small Step*, Episode 2

- INSTRUCTIONS: *Play this week's episode of [Press Play](#).*

## PRAYER

- Ask someone to dismiss in prayer
- Or pray for the class
  - God, thank you for listening to us every time we pray. Help us to see people where we live, learn, and play who may need help that only you can give. Give us the opportunity to pray for people and watch you do amazing things! Amen.