



Sermon
Discussion
Guide

Sunday, June 23, 2024

ACTS: The Heart of the Church Empowered to Heal

Read/Reflect

1. Read Acts 3, and concentrate on the chapter as a whole. How does Peter's sermon (vss.11-26) connect to this first miracle of the church (vss.1-10)? What's the central point?
2. What characterizes the encounter between the beggar and the two disciples (vs.4,5)? Imagine the usual encounters the beggar might otherwise have? What does Peter's and John's behaviour suggest about addressing the brokenness of people's lives?
3. What does Peter mean in verse 16 (and see also verse 6) when he says the man was healed "in Jesus name." Though certainly more than a magic formula, what is the significance of those words?

Explore

4. What is the purpose of miracles, if not simply to be impressed by the wonders God can do (see Peter's admonishment in verse 12 and his quick move to the rejection of Jesus (vs.13-15).
5. When you have experienced healing (even of minor things) how have you generally regarded it, as miraculous or just the normal course of events?
6. Do you think miraculous healing still occurs today?
7. What is the greatest ill that afflicts people of the world today (or people of your community)?
8. Have you ever prayed for healing of some sort and nothing changed? What does that mean? How did it effect your faith?

Pray

- Seek out prayer for healing in your life, whether physical, emotional, spiritual, or relational.
- Pray for someone else's healing, without a thought to what your prayer can do, but rather what God can do by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Give thanks to God for the gift of healing.