



JUST AN ORDINARY DAY – ACTS 3:1-10

GETTING STARTED

Many people look at stories of healing with a good deal of skepticism. Even for many Christians, when we hear that God has healed someone, our first response is doubt. But the Bible is full of stories of people being healed, where does our doubt come from? The Bible calls us to pray for healing, yet at the same time doesn't promise that we will always be healed. So how do we understand stories like this one, where Peter simply heals someone on the Temple grounds? What do we learn about God's purposes in healing and how are we to imitate this example?

READ THE TEXT: ACTS 3:1-10

1 Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. 2 And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. 3 Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. 4 And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." 5 And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. 6 But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" 7 And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. 8 And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising



God. **9** And all the people saw him walking and praising God, **10** and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

1. If Jesus is the New Temple, and there is no longer any reason to give a sacrifice, why are Peter and John going into the Temple? Do you think it was significant to the Jewish people that this took place in the Temple?
2. Compare this story with some other of the stories of Jesus' healing (For instance: Mark 2:1-12 or John 9:1-7) What do we see about the purpose of healing in the Bible?

APPLY THE TEXT

3. How do you see the balance between praying in anticipation of the miracle and yet knowing God's answer may be no? What impact does this have on your faith?
4. How does this section of Scripture impact how we view the poor? What aspects of Peter's response should we imitate?

SHARE & PRAY

1. As we study the book of Acts, think carefully about 1 or 2 people that you would like to actively share the gospel with. Share them with your life group and hold one another accountable in prayer and support.
2. In light of Acts 3:1-10, pray that God would give us spiritual healing that our hearts would be drawn to him as we reach out and share what we have been given.

