



A WONDERFUL-FULL OPPORTUNITY – ACTS

3:11-26

GETTING STARTED

Immediately after the healing of a man who was born lame, Peter finds himself with a golden opportunity to share the gospel. Certainly this was part of God’s plan for healing this man, so that the gospel would be shared with those who were there. While perhaps we don’t always experience healing, God does give us opportunities to share the gospel with those around us. Peter gives us a good example of how to take advantage of those opportunities to share the good news of Jesus. He crafts his message for his hearers and calls them to place their faith in Jesus.

READ THE TEXT: ACTS 3:11-26

¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon’s. ¹² And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: “Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To



this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷ “And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸ But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰ that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago. ²² Moses said, ‘The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. ²³ And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.’ ²⁴ And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. ²⁵ You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.’ ²⁶ God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness.”

UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

1. Working through this passage, what does Peter affirm about who Jesus is? What titles are given to Jesus? What parts of Scripture does he fulfill?
2. Peter says that the Jewish people and leaders were “ignorant” of what they did. (vs 17) How does this affect our view of sin and repentance? Look at 1 Tim 1:13-15 and Eph 4:18 and compare. Does their ignorance mean they are not held responsible?

[Extra verses for studying this passage: 1 Peter 3:15; 1 Cor 1:22-24; Matt 16:1-4; 1 Cor 9:19-23]

APPLY THE TEXT

3. Peter crafts his message so that his audience can understand it. How can we craft our evangelism so that our neighbours can understand it, without changing the message of the gospel?



4. When is the last time you shared the gospel? How did it go? How can you prepare to share the gospel this week?

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 3:11-26, pray that God would give us the opportunities to share the message of Jesus and the courage to speak winsomely and clearly to those around us.

