

Looking for  
helpful  
resources as  
you study  
Acts?



Bible Project



Free Commentary



Free Crossway Study

### LET'S CHECK IN:

1. Briefly share: over the last week, what's one way you've noticed God working in your life? Or in the lives of others? In your community? In the world? Or share something that happened in the last week you are grateful for!

### LET'S GET STARTED:

2. Briefly share: What's your biggest question about healing and miracles? Have you ever experienced or witness one?

### LET'S DIVE IN:

3. First, read together Acts 3. Think back to the sermon. Was there an idea that spoke to you, or was there anything said that challenged, intrigued or confused you that you want to explore more? Listen to each other, but don't feel the need to answer a person's question.
4. Luke stresses the condition of the man: "lame from birth," "was being carried," was placed at the gate of the temple, and was begging from those going into the temple. He offers a picture of long-term helplessness; yet his helplessness is described in relation to the temple—he is on the outside. Peter and John, and everyone else, are entering into the temple, whereas the lame man is placed outside (3:2, 10). Although, after the miracle he immediately enters the temple and experienced relational wholeness among God's people. The sermon Big Idea stated: **wholeness in life comes from the Author of life**. When you consider the wholeness and restoration Jesus offers, how does this compel you to move toward those who are broken, confused, hurting, isolated, and helpless?
5. Consider all the different names and titles Peter attributes to Jesus in his speech in Acts 3:12-26. First, why do you think Peter stresses the multifaceted nature of Jesus to his Jewish countrymen? Can you think of time during Jesus' ministry in which he demonstrated the essence of that name?

Secondly, In your personal walk with Jesus, what's one of Jesus' names that you most identify with and gives you a sense of His comfort and presence in your life?

6. Peter invoked the name of Jesus to rely on his authority. Read Colossians 3:17. As believers we are called to walk in the name of Jesus Christ. What does this look like for you to walk in his authority? Share of a time when you relied on that authority or one way you can regularly rely on his authority.
  
7. Read Isaiah 35:6. Luke describes the man's actions to echo Isaiah's prophecy that envisioned what will happen during the messianic age. Luke wants us to read the healing so we see the man as living embodiment or a sign that points to a much greater reality. Read Rev. 21:4 which describes the foretaste of what is to come when Jesus returns. But until this time, we will experience sickness and suffering. How do you explain to someone why God doesn't heal everyone or every time you pray? How can you explain to a non-Christian this future hope that awaits someone who puts faith in Christ.
  
8. Putt yourself into the sandals as a Jew listening to Peter's sermon. Why would it be a struggle to accept his message about Jesus? What was the stumbling block for Jews? We see how Peter faced this antagonism. How would you describe his approach and conviction? How does his example encourage you? Also, is there anything we can learn about how God is able to work in the face of opposition when we seek to share the good news? Share any relevant personal stories or examples.

### **LET'S TAKE A NEXT STEP:**

9. In light of this study, share and write down one next action step you feel God is leading you to take in the next week? End by praying as a group for our church to have a united and shared life around these characteristics.

*(Consider areas: a temptation to avoid? Promise to claim? Example to follow? Command to obey? Person to move toward? A new discipline to develop that will help you love God with your heart, soul, mind, strength and to love others?)*