



Title: Turn To Jesus

Text: Acts 3:11–26

CONTEXT |

Jesus came to earth to accomplish a mission. Although he was rejected by men and tortured his mission was successful. It was his plan to die as propitiation for the sin of all who would trust in Him. After death He rose and continues to work through His church to seek and save the lost. The healing of a man who had been begging at the temple for decades because he was born handicapped drew tremendous attention at the evening prayer gathering. As Peter and John left the temple, along with their newly healed friend a large crowd gathered around them. This healing was more than just an act of God's compassion and power for this man's physical condition. It was God's plan to present the gospel to people who had previously rejected Jesus.

MAIN IDEA |

Forgiveness and refreshing are available to all who repent and trust in Jesus.

KEY VERSES |

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...

Acts 3:19–20 ESV

DISCUSSION QUESTION IDEAS |

- In what ways does the healing of the lame man typify the work of Christ in the life all of us?
- What in this passage is most exciting to you?
- What is most convicting?
- In light of this passage, what do you think are some important things to do in preparation for sharing the gospel with others? Is there anything we can do to increase our effectiveness as witnesses?
- In addition to supernatural healing, can you think of other ways God opens the door to opportunities to sharing the gospel?
- How would you answer a person who wanted to know if Jesus had really saved them? (i.e., How does a person know they are truly saved?)

EXPLANATION |

The healing of the lame man is an example of gospel ministry where we demonstrate the authority and love of God with our deeds as we seek to speak the message about Jesus. In this passage we have a great example of being sure to clearly state the message when God gets people's attention. Peter makes it very clear that Jesus is the one who healed, and that they could be forgiven of their sin and restored in relationship with God if they repent and trust in Jesus. Note first, that Peter confronts their sin boldly. Then he lovingly invites them to take the necessary steps of faith in response.

The passage is a clear presentation of the essentials of a presentation of the gospel. As such, it serves as a model for what we should share with the lost. The essence of it is a call to forgiveness and new life through repentance and trust in Jesus. Although we don't see how the crowd responds immediately. It is clear there are two possible responses, each with its own result.