

"The Miracle & the Message at Solomon's Court" (Acts 3:1-26)

- 1) Peter is thinking, "We've passed this spot hundreds of times before—where did he come from?" But at this moment something unique is happening—the **Spirit** is tapping Peter on the shoulder!
- 2) Adam and Eve lived in a paradise until they ate the fruit of the "Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil..." Then, the choice was made! **Innocence** crumbled—crushed by curiosity and pride and suspicion and doubt... (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:12; Genesis 3:4-5, 8-9)
- 3) With **sin** came death and sickness and suffering...and worst of all—evil! Weren't we created in the image of God (Gen 1:27)
- 4) Love without **choice** is only infatuation! Infatuation is based on passion, obsession, fascination, and enchantment—not an act of our **will**, but of our desires, emotions, and cravings.
- 5) These people were infatuated with the idea of a free meal... Jesus rejected this completely! Jesus came, and performed miracles of healing and restoration, to demonstrate His power to **forgive** sins! (John 6:2, 9, 25-29; Mark 2:8-11)
- 6) Do you measure the goodness of God by the **cross** or by your prosperity or comfort or success? If that's how you think—your God is too **small**!
- 7) Jesus didn't just appear out of nowhere—out of a vacuum. He was the awaited **fulfillment** of almost 2,000 years of history...(Isaiah 53:7; Luke 4:16-20; Isaiah 61; Luke 24:27; Acts 1:1-3)
- 8) Peter goes on to claim that the **name** of Jesus—by faith—is the **trigger** releasing this healing power..
- 9) None of us can be effective to **minister** in the Body of Christ or **witness** to an unsaved World until we spend time in God's Word and on our knees with the Savior!
- 10) Repentance is more than remorse or regret. It's the willingness to change; not the power to change. We lack that **power**; that's why we need Jesus. But repentance is me providing God the **willingness**. (Isaiah 40:31; 43:25; 44:3; Deut. 18:15; Isaiah 60:12; 2 Samuel 7:12, 16; Genesis 3:15; 12:3)

"The Miracle & the Message at Solomon's Court" (Acts 3:1-26)

- 1) Peter is thinking, "We've passed this spot hundreds of times before—where did he come from?" But at this moment something unique is happening—the _____ is tapping Peter on the shoulder!
- 2) Adam and Eve lived in a paradise until they ate the fruit of the "Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil..." Then, the choice was made! _____ crumbled—crushed by curiosity and pride and suspicion and doubt... (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:12; Genesis 3:4-5, 8-9)
- 3) With ____ came death and sickness and suffering...and worst of all—evil! Weren't we created in the image of God (Gen 1:27)
- 4) Love without _____ is only infatuation! Infatuation is based on passion, obsession, fascination, and enchantment—not an act of our _____, but of our desires, emotions, and cravings.
- 5) These people were infatuated with the idea of a free meal... Jesus rejected this completely! Jesus came, and performed miracles of healing and restoration, to demonstrate His power to _____ sins! (John 6:2, 9, 25-29; Mark 2:8-11)
- 6) Do you measure the goodness of God by the **cross** or by your prosperity or comfort or success? If that's how you think—your God is too _____!
- 7) Jesus didn't just appear out of nowhere—out of a vacuum. He was the awaited _____ of almost 2,000 years of history...(Isaiah 53:7; Luke 4:16-20; Isaiah 61; Luke 24:27; Acts 1:1-3)
- 8) Peter goes on to claim that the _____ of Jesus—by faith—is the _____ releasing this healing power..
- 9) None of us can be effective to _____ in the Body of Christ or **witness** to an unsaved World until we spend time in God's Word and on our knees with the Savior!
- 10) Repentance is more than remorse or regret. It's the willingness to change; not the power to change. We lack that _____; that's why we need Jesus. But repentance is me providing God the **willingness**. (Isaiah 40:31; 43:25; 44:3; Deut. 18:15; Isaiah 60:12; 2 Samuel 7:12, 16; Genesis 3:15; 12:3)

to follow Him, even when it costs us everything. What are some things we may need to sacrifice or endure for following Jesus? (Try to come up with at least three)

- 9) Read through Paul's list of things he suffered for following and serving Jesus. Why do you think Paul was able to endure such hardship?

2 Corinthians 11:24-28 - "[24] From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. [25] Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; [26] in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; [27] in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness-- [28] besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches."

TAKING IT HOME

- 10) What can you do differently to be a better friend and follower of Jesus?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶

Life Group Homework For the week of March 7, 2021

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- 1) Where were you born, and how many siblings do you have?
- 2) If God would grant you one of the following wishes, what would you choose and why?
- No health issues until the day you died.
 - Financial stability.
 - Perfect relationships.
 - Never to be hungry.

REVIEW

- 3) Looking back at your notes, what stood out to you from this week's message? (Favorite point? Questions? etc..)

DIGGING DEEPER

- 4) This week we discussed the idea that Jesus didn't come to heal the results of sin - but to *forgive* sin! Why do you think we, as humans, are tempted to treat God like a vending machine or a genie who grants wishes?
- 5) How would you respond if a friend asked you why God allows bad things to happen?

- 6) Read the following passages and underline anything that stands out to you. How does each passage relate to the question "Why do bad things happen to good people?"

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 - "[16] Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. [17] For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, [18] while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

2 Corinthians 1:3-5 - "[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, [4] who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. [5] For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ."

1 Peter 2:21-23 - "[21] For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: [22] "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth"; [23] who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not

threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;"

Job 1:21 - "[21] And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD.""

Revelation 21:1-5 - "[1] Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. [2] Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. [3] And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God [is] with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them [and be] their God. [4] "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." [5] Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful.""

- 7) After reading the above passages, which verse or passage is the most important for you to remember right now? Why?
- 8) Many people have sought to be close to Jesus - but for the wrong reasons. (Maybe they wanted a miracle, or a blessing, or a political reform!). But Jesus commands us