

## **ACTS of GOD #10: Expecting More**

Acts 3:1-10     3/10/2019

### **Desiring Just Another Normal Day**

- When the routine goes off the rails...
  - After kids alone last weekend, I was looking forward to a routine week
  - Instead I got a Van slide off Monday, Thumb Fiasco, & Daylight Savings
- When we sink into our routine, we can more easily miss what God is doing
  - A Challenge to expect more from, for, in, & through the Lord
    - Are you recognizing what comes FROM His hand?
    - Are you realizing opportunities FOR serving Him & others?
    - Are you remembering who you are IN Him?
    - Are you receiving strength & victory for this walk THROUGH Him?
  - Lord, teach me to expect more of you than my routine's comfort allows

### **When the Lord Works Mightily on a Mundane Day:     Acts 3:1-10** **-Understanding the Religious Setting & Routine     (v. 1-3)**

*Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms.*

- The Hour of Prayer
  - 3 times a day: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, & 9<sup>th</sup> Hour
  - This time of prayer coincided with the evening sacrifice
- The Beautiful Gate
  - On the East side, made of Corinthian Brass, 20 Men to Close
  - Between Court of the Women & the Gentiles
  - High Traffic, Especially at the Sacrifice Hours
- The One Asking for Alms
  - A man lame from his mother's womb (40 years old)
  - A man carried daily & laid at this spot to ask alms
  - A man who had become a fixture
  - A man asking Peter & John routinely
  - Consider the impact of years in this same position
- Peter & John
  - Changed & Empowered by God and given a mission
  - Devoting themselves to daily prayer in the temple

### **-Offering an unusual response to a routine request     (v. 4-6)**

*<sup>4</sup> And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." <sup>5</sup> And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. <sup>6</sup> 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!"*

- Fixed Gaze: Peter & John saw more than a lame beggar
- Fixed Attention: His response to Peter's call expected what was routine
- Offering more than was expected: Giving mercy better than silver/gold

### **-The Routine is Shattered by the Power of God     (v. 7-10)**

*<sup>7</sup> And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. <sup>8</sup> And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. <sup>9</sup> And all the people saw him walking and praising God, <sup>10</sup> 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.*

- The lame man was lifted up by Peter
  - His feet & ankles made immediately strong
- The Healed man was leaping, walking, & praising
  - Entering the temple with them
  - Interrupting the routine prayers with shouts & leaps of praise
  - Recognized by the people as the one who sat at the gate
- The people are filled with wonder and amazement

Is there room in your routine...

- For the movement of God be noticed
- For the mission of God to be fulfilled
- For the might of God to be displayed