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Acts 3:1-11

The questions before the question:

- What do I have?
- Where am I present?

The Spirit was using people who were:

- willing to be interrupted.
- paying attention to the needs of others.
- willing to give what they had.
- acknowledging the power of Jesus.
- bringing people from the outside in.

Learning from the beggar: *reach out to the more God has even when you don't understand.*

### **Pray for the One**

Pray for loved ones to experience God's love this Easter by asking the Holy Spirit to soften their hearts, remove barriers to attend and grant you boldness to extend a personal invitation. Pray that they feel welcomed, experience a profound moment with Jesus, and find hope in the resurrection. ***The one I'm praying for is:***

God, I'm really thinking about \_\_\_\_\_ and wanting them to come to Easter service with me. You know their story and where they're at better than I do. Help me find a natural moment to bring it up without it feeling forced or awkward. I want them to feel the same peace and hope I do. Go ahead of me and start working on their heart and give me the courage to ask. Amen.

My next steps:

- Be filled with the Holy Spirit
- Give away what has been given to you.

*Many of our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus & His church by joining one today! <https://rlc.pub/groups>*

Looking back over what Jeff talked about on Sunday, was there something you'd like to share?

Have you ever asked something of the Lord and been surprised by something you needed that wasn't even on the list? What helps you to ask things of the Lord with open hands?

### **Connect to God's story**

*Take a moment to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to lead your discussion as you read the Scriptures together.*

**Read Isaiah 35.**

*Ponder what you read and share what you observed.*

*This is a prophesy about the coming of the Lord's kingdom. This prophesy is bookended with singing. What is it about singing that helps us remember? Reflect? Rejoice?*

What are some things prophesied here that are fulfilled through the ministries of Jesus and his disciples? Why do you think it would be important for the birth of the church to be marked with miraculous signs?

Read Acts 3:1-11.

*Ponder what you read and share what you observed.*

Could this man, lame from birth, even get to the Temple gate without someone putting him there? Have you ever found yourself in a place of complete reliance on someone else to do what everyone else seems to do? What was that like?

By whose authority does Peter heal the man? The man was asking and expecting money... what does he receive? Peter told him in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene to get up and walk... what happened?

What do you do when God gives you something you weren't expecting or much more than what you were asking?

Why do you think it was important that this was a man EVERYBODY recognized as begging at the gate all of his life? What do you do when you see a life-changing work of God in someone else's life?

Is there someone in your life that needs the life-changing work of God? Who is the one person that God is placing on your heart that he wants to change? Who, like this lame man, does he want to radically change their life? *Take some time to pray for who God is putting on your heart to share the life-changing good news of Jesus this coming Easter!*

## THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS

*Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful relationships with Jesus and each other through the study of God's Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25).*

Here's how we accomplish this in our community throughout the week:

### SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

### STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life by following Jesus.

### SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

### SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Throughout the Life Group session, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways the Father has designed you to serve and make a difference in His kingdom as He conforms you to the image of His Son! (Romans 8:28-30)