



Sermon Discussion Guide

02.19.23 Message | Tyler Myers | Acts 3:11-26, 4:5-13

Key Scriptures:

While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. "And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago. Moses said, 'The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.' And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.' God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness."

- Acts 3:11-26

On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

- Acts 4:5-12

**Message Highlights:**

- A church with Jesus will follow the Holy Spirit in ways that amaze people and confuse worldly powers.
- As the church repents and expands its understanding of what it means to seek God individually and collectively, it will see renewal.
- We put the mission of Jesus in jeopardy when we don't live with Jesus in a bold way.
- As Christians, we should desire to live with Jesus, filled with the spirit and in partnership with his community.

Conversation Starter:

We've all heard sayings like "who you surround yourself with is who you become," or "you're the average of your five closest friends." How might you see this ringing true in your own life?

Discuss the Message:

1. What action step does Peter call the early church to in Acts 3:11-26?
 - a. How would you define 'repent' as it is used in the passage?
 - b. Do you make repentance a regular practice in your life? What helps and/or hinders you from turning to God when you make a mistake?
 - c. Have you experienced renewal in your life or in the lives of others as a result of repentance? What has renewal looked like in your experience?
2. In Acts 4:5-12, how does the Holy Spirit's presence in Peter enable him to accomplish God's will?
 - a. In what ways do you notice a difference in your daily life when you are intentional about being with Jesus?
 - b. Where do you feel you need to seek Jesus more and what are practical ways that you can do so this week?
3. In Acts 4:13, the Sanhedrin perceived that Peter and John had been "with Jesus." Read some of the surrounding text; why had they perceived this?
 - a. What are some of the indicators that you have been "with Jesus", whether it be a change of mood, motivation or something else?

Pray:

God, we're grateful that you desire to be with us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. No matter what circumstances we may face, we have confidence in who you say you are. Would you give us boldness and courage as we seek to amplify your name through our speech, our actions and our lives? Help us to continue to seek opportunities for repentance and gospel conversations, knowing that your presence changes everything. In Jesus' name, amen.