

WORD

⁶But 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!" ⁷And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ACTS 3:6,7

As believers, having the Holy Spirit in us is a privilege once we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior. However, we do not always understand the power and the presence of the Holy Spirit, and we do not always tap into this unlimited resource. The book of Acts illustrates different instances where the disciples were able to do signs and wonders that were only made possible because of the Holy Spirit. In this lesson, we will discover three important lessons from the healing of the lame beggar and how the Holy Spirit can work through us.

1 Be ready to be used by God.

³Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. ⁴And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ACTS 3:3,4

Peter and John were going their way when they encountered the lame beggar. In the same way, God can use us anytime or anywhere, whether we feel ready or not. As His people, we need to learn to be sensitive to His prompting. This begins by being wholly surrendered to Him and His will. As children of God, how can we be assured that we are to be used by Him? (Ephesians 2:10)

2 Minister boldly.

⁵And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶But 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!" **ACTS 3:5,6**

The lame beggar expected to receive food or alms to keep him sated. Peter and John were unable to provide these. Instead, they possessed something much greater: healing in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Despite our own limitations, we can be confident that the Holy Spirit is more than enough—and this truth must empower us to minister boldly. What does God give us, through His Holy Spirit? (2 Timothy 1:7)

3 Rely on the power of the Holy Spirit.

⁷And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸And leaping up he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. **ACTS 3:7,8**

Peter and John did not rely on their own capacity for a miracle to happen. They were fully dependent on the Holy Spirit to do His work in the lame beggar, and he was healed. This resulted in praising God. In the same way, we can be confident that despite our limitations as human beings, God is more than able to do great things. All we need to do is put our trust in Him and depend on His work. What does God promise us when we receive His Spirit? (Acts 1:8)

APPLICATION

- What could be stopping you from being used by God and ministering boldly? How can you be ready to preach the gospel and step out in faith?
- Who can you pray for to receive healing? How can you apply what we've learned today to a specific situation of a family member or friend?
- How can you rely on the power of the Holy Spirit this week?

PRAYER

- Thank God for His power and presence in your life. Pray that you will always be filled with the Holy Spirit so that you may boldly proclaim who He is in your life.
- Pray for a family member or friend who is ill. Believe God for healing and ask God to use you to minister by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray that you will always rely on the Holy Spirit and trust Him to use you when you are faced with opportunities to pray for others, preach the gospel, and believe for healing.



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