

The Book of Acts

Expect the Unexpected

Acts 3-4:21

MAIN IDEAS

The church is built through the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Expect the Unexpected (Acts 3:1-10)
 - Peter heals the crippled beggar at the gate
 - Intersection of faith and transformation
- Expect an Opportunity (Acts 3:11-26)
 - Peter speaks to the onlookers
- Expect Opposition (Acts 4:1-22)
 - Peter and John were put in jail for a night
 - Peter and John were brought before the rulers and the elders and the teachers of the law
- Expect the Holy Spirit to show up (Acts 4:23-31)
 - Upon returning, the people responded with prayer
 - Prayer was prioritized as the response in the face of trials and difficulty

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Read Acts 3:3. What did the crippled man expect from Peter and John when he saw them at the temple gate? What did he actually receive (Acts 3:6-8)?

Read Luke 9:1-6. How did Peter know to call upon God to heal others?

Peter was confident when he told the man to walk in the name of Jesus (Acts 3:6). What supernatural gift was Peter receiving from the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:9)?

How did the beggar respond upon receiving the miracle (Acts 3:8)? How did the people respond (Acts 3:11)?

Read Acts 3:11-26. What opportunity did the Holy Spirit present to Peter? Did Peter speak to the crowd on his own accord? What do you notice about Peter's demeanor?

Compare this sermon to the one Peter delivered on Pentecost. What do you notice?

What was the opposition Peter and John faced upon sharing the gospel with the onlookers? What oppositions have you faced as a follower of Jesus?

On their release, Peter and John spoke to their people about what had happened. How did the people respond (Acts 4:23)?

When faced with adversity or trials, what is your first response?

What might we expect from the Holy Spirit when we pray with confidence?

GROUP RESPONSE

Does your group have a story within its body about receiving the supernatural gift of faith from the Holy Spirit?

Does your group have a story within its body about facing adversity?

Does your group pray with confidence?

REPRODUCE

Ask the Holy Spirit to embolden you as you seek opportunities to proclaim the gospel.

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- Acts 3-4:21

Additional verses from the study:

- Luke 9:1-6 and
- 1 Corinthians 12:9