

May 31, 2026 – Small Group Questions

Acts 3:1–26 “The First Miracle: A Foretaste, and an Invitation”

As we gather this week, Acts 3 invites us to reflect on the healing of the lame man at the temple gate, not simply as a miracle in isolation, but as a sign of something much greater. Peter presents this healing as a foretaste of the new creation Jesus will one day bring in full, and at the same time, an invitation to experience even now the refreshing and renewal found under his reign. As you discuss together, listen for the ways this passage awakens both hope and longing - for our own lives, for our world, and for the day Christ makes all things new.

1. Before we get into the passage itself, what has your experience of miracles, healing, or answered prayer been? Have you witnessed moments where you sensed God break in powerfully? Have there also been prayers that seemed unanswered?

Read Acts 3:1–26 together.

2. In verses 1–10, what stands out to you about the interaction between Peter, John, and the lame man? Why do you think Peter begins with the words, “Look at us”?
3. In verses 11–18, Peter insists that this healing should not surprise the crowd because it fits within God’s larger story. How does Peter connect this miracle to the promises and hopes of Israel’s Scriptures?
4. Peter speaks very directly about Israel’s rejection of Jesus, even saying, “you killed the author of life” (v. 15). Yet he also says this took place according to what God had foretold through the prophets (v. 18). How do passages like Isaiah 53, Psalm 118:22, or Deuteronomy 18:15–19 help us understand Peter’s argument?
5. This miracle points beyond itself to the restoration God intends to bring to the whole world. Where do you most long to see God bring renewal, healing, or restoration — either personally or in the world around you?
6. Peter’s response to the crowd is surprising: “Repent... that times of refreshing may come” (v. 19). Why do you think repentance is connected to refreshment and renewal?
7. Luke begins the story by telling us Peter and John went to the temple at “the hour of prayer, the ninth hour” (v. 1), 3 pm, the time of the daily sacrifice. Why do you think Luke includes that detail? How does it deepen the meaning of what happens in this passage when we remember that Jesus also died at that very hour (Mark 15:33–37)?

As you close your time together, spend some time in prayer. Invite people to name places in their lives or in the world where they long to see the renewing work of Jesus break in more fully. Pray for healing, freedom, repentance, courage, and hope. And together root yourselves again in the promise that one day Jesus will indeed restore all things.