



NEW TESTAMENT • LESSON 47

THE LAME BEGGAR WALKS

There is power in the name of Jesus.



MONDAY

THE STORY: ACTS 3:1-8

The lame beggar was healed. In a story reminiscent of Jesus, we see Peter and John on their way to the temple when they were interrupted by the call of a crippled man who asked for money. Peter called for the man's attention and then, in the name of Jesus, ordered the man to walk. Peter helped the man up, and instantly the man's feet were healed! Recognizing this, he leapt to his feet and went into the temple praising God. The power of Jesus continued even after His death, resurrection, and ascension!

The temple had been quiet for some time. The agitation Jesus and His ministry once caused had passed. Though there were rumors of His rising from the dead, they likely did not carry much weight because Jesus was nowhere to be found. He was gone. The Jewish leaders probably did not realize there were now four thousand Christians about to break the message out to the whole world. With the words "in the name of Jesus," there was commotion in the temple again!

TALK ABOUT IT:

What does this story remind you of? (Look up Luke 5:23-26 and read it to your children.)

What does the ongoing healing tell us? (The authority Jesus gave to the disciples to heal did not depend on Him remaining on the earth.)

PRAY:

Take time to lift up those who you know are sick. God is still a healing God!



TUESDAY

THE STORY: ACTS 3:9-16

Peter addressed the amazed crowd. The people came running to see the miracle that had just taken place. They were astonished. Peter wasted no time giving credit for the miracle to Jesus. Peter shared the gospel with the crowd. His message was not mild. In fact, he accused them of killing Jesus. Peter testified that he was a witness to the resurrection.

Peter's actions were in keeping with the charge Jesus gave the disciples just before His ascension. Jesus said in Acts 1:8, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The mission to touch all people began in Jerusalem.

TALK ABOUT IT:

Who did Peter credit for the healing? (Peter gave Jesus credit for the healing.)

Did Peter draw any attention to himself? (No. Peter gave all the glory for the healing to God.)

Who might God want you to share the gospel with? (Parents, take time to think of a person you and your family might reach out to. Pray for an opportunity to share the gospel with this individual.)

PRAY:

Thank Jesus, the author of life, for the gospel. Ask him to give you the same courage Peter had so that you might share the gospel with those around you.



WEDNESDAY
WHERE IS THE GOSPEL?

THE STORY: ACTS 3:17-26

After healing the crippled beggar, Peter was not going to miss an opportunity to share the gospel. Peter explained that if they repented and believed in Jesus, their sins could be forgiven. He appealed to them from the words of the prophets and he quoted Moses (see Deuteronomy 18:15). Peter ended his appeal by reminding them of Jesus' call for them to abandon their wicked ways. The gospel was the theme of Peter's appeal.

TALK ABOUT IT:

Why did Peter talk about the prophets so much? (We need to remember that they only had the Old Testament. The New Testament was not yet written. Peter was simply using Scripture as his authority so that faith did not depend on his testimony, but on the testimony of God through the prophets.)

Where do you see the gospel mentioned in Peter's message? (Help your children locate the gospel in the passage. We never want to tire of making sure they know and can clearly recognize the gospel message.)

PRAY:

Thank the Lord for the good news! Have your family thank God for the ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the call to repentance that comes to us as a result, and the willingness with which God forgives those who place their hope in Jesus.



THURSDAY

THE STORY: ACTS 4:1-22

Many who heard believed. Peter and John stirred up so much commotion that the Sadducees put them in jail. But many who heard the message believed, and continued praising God. This posed quite a problem for the religious rulers. They could see the man who was forty years old and crippled from birth standing there. They were surprised by the courage of Peter and John. They decided to simply ask them to stop talking about Jesus. Peter and John refused. After the rulers threatened them again, Peter and John were released.

TALK ABOUT IT:

Where did Peter get the courage to speak to the rulers and elders? (Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit emboldened him and helped him. See Acts 4:8)

What did Peter share with the religious rulers? (Peter shared the gospel. Review Acts 4:10-12.)

Why does the gospel keep getting repeated? (The gospel is the power of God unto salvation for everyone who believes. See Romans 1:16.)

PRAY:

Ask the Lord to give us courage and humility as we share the gospel with others.



FRIDAY
ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

THE STORY: PSALM 49:7-9

No mere man can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for him. But Jesus was no mere man. Paul told Timothy, “For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men (see 1 Timothy 2:5,6). Not only was Jesus sufficient as a ransom for one man, Jesus, life was sufficient as a ransom for all men!

TALK ABOUT IT:

Why can't a man give up his life to ransom another from God? (All of us are sinful. We don't have the worth of a sinless man; therefore, we can not pay the debt of another man who has fallen into sin. Imagine trying to make amends with a neighbor if your son broke his window by giving him a broken window!)

Why can Jesus pay the ransom for all men? (First, as a man, Jesus lived a sinless life here on earth. Secondly, His worth is far greater than all the people of the earth combined.)

PRAY:

Thank the Lord for giving up His life as a ransom for ours.