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WARM UP

What is the most beautiful place you've ever been to? Can you describe how you felt when you saw how beautiful it was?

WORD

Read **Acts 3**

Peter and John are seen in Jerusalem at the temple gate called the Beautiful Gate, when they encounter a man who was lame from birth. They prayed and he was healed, stirring up curiosity and criticism from onlookers, as most of them had only seen Jesus heal before. Peter addresses the crowd by preaching the gospel.

NOTES

1 Even More Beautiful

¹Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ²And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. 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." ⁵And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them.

Acts 3:1-5 (ESV)

Having been filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2), there is now a boldness in Peter and John, and they are focused on getting into the temple. The lame man was asking for charity, but what he was about to get from Peter and John was going to be much more beneficial for him. They tell the lame man to look at them.

- What do people see when they see you? Do they see Jesus?
 - Have you missed people around you that may need attention, compassion or help?
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2 Silver and Gold Have I None

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. ⁸And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹And all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Acts 3:6-10 (ESV)

Peter takes the lame man by the hand and gives him something greater than money. The man not only walks for the first time, but also begins leaping.

- Have you ever prayed for something, but God answered your prayer by going over and above your expectations? If so, can you share? If not, what are you believing God to do?
 - The man leapt and immediately started praising God to the point that everyone around him was filled with amazement because they saw his transformation. Do people around you look with wonder and amazement at your transformation and love for God?
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PRAYER

- Ask God for eyes to see those who may be "outside at the temple gate", those who need to come to the church to encounter the love and power of Jesus Christ.
- Begin to thank God for all he has done for you. Make a list and take time to praise him for it all. Lavish your love on him.