

Intro: Key decisions in your physical life and your spiritual life.

1. When you respond to people's greatest needs.

Acts 3:1-8 (HCSB)

¹ Now Peter and John were going up together to the temple complex at the hour of prayer at three in the afternoon.

² And a man who was lame from his mother's womb was carried there and placed every day at the temple gate called Beautiful, so he could beg from those entering the temple complex.

³ When he saw Peter and John about to enter the temple complex, he asked for help.

⁴ Peter, along with John, looked at him intently and said, "Look at us."

⁵ So he turned to them, expecting to get something from them.

⁶ But Peter said, "I have neither silver nor gold, but what I have, I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!"

⁷ Then, taking him by the right hand he raised him up, and at once his feet and ankles became strong.

⁸ So he jumped up, stood, and started to walk, and he entered the temple complex with them—walking, leaping, and praising God.

Luke 5:24 (HCSB)

²⁴ But so you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—He told the paralyzed man, "I tell you: get up, pick up your stretcher, and go home."

Isaiah 35:6 (HCSB)

⁶ Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will sing for joy, for water will gush in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

2. When you recognize Jesus, and the power of His name.

Acts 3:10-16 (HCSB)

¹⁰ and they recognized that he was the one who used to sit and beg at the Beautiful Gate of the temple complex. So they were filled with awe and astonishment at what had happened to him.

¹¹ While he was holding on to Peter and John, all the people, greatly amazed, ran toward them in what is called Solomon's Colonnade.

¹² When Peter saw this, he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why are you amazed at this? Or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made him walk?"

¹³ The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you handed over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him.

¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked to have a murderer given to you.

¹⁵ And you killed the source of life, whom God raised from the dead; we are witnesses of this.

¹⁶ By faith in His name, His name has made this man strong, whom you see and know. So the faith that comes through Him has given him this perfect health in front of all of you.

2a. “My Servant”

Isaiah 42:1 (HCSB)

¹ “This is My Servant; I strengthen Him, [this is] My Chosen One; I delight in Him. I have put My Spirit on Him; He will bring justice to the nations.

Isaiah 52:13 (HCSB)

¹³ See, My servant will act wisely; He will be raised and lifted up and greatly exalted.

Isaiah 53:11 (HCSB)

¹¹ He will see [it] out of His anguish, and He will be satisfied with His knowledge. My righteous servant will justify many, and He will carry their iniquities.

2b. “The Holy and Righteous One”

Mark 10:18 (HCSB)

¹⁸ “Why do you call Me good?” Jesus asked him. “No one is good but One—God.

Romans 3:10 (HCSB)

¹⁰ as it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one;

2c. “The source of life” (vs 15)

2d. “His Messiah and yours”(vss 18, 20)

2e. “A Prophet like Moses” (vs 22)

2f. “Abraham’s Seed that would bless all the earth. (vs 25)

2g. Salvation in His name. Acts 4:12 (HCSB)

¹² There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved.”

3. When you repent and turn back to the Lord.

Acts 3:17 (HCSB)

¹⁷ “And now, brothers, I know that you did it in ignorance, just as your leaders also did.

Acts 3:19 (HCSB)

¹⁹ Therefore repent and turn back, that your sins may be wiped out so that seasons of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,

Acts 3:22 (HCSB)

²² Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from among your brothers. You must listen to Him in everything He will say to you.

Acts 3:26 (HCSB)

²⁶ God raised up His Servant and sent Him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your evil ways.”

Acts 26:20 (HCSB)

²⁰ Instead, I preached to those in Damascus first, and to those in Jerusalem and in all the region of Judea, and to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works worthy of repentance.

Revelation 2:5 (HCSB)

⁵ Remember then how far you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. Otherwise, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.

Invitation: Repent, Recognize Jesus, and Respond to needy people.