



Small Group Questions: Real Life

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Read

Acts 3: 1-17 and 4: 1-22

Reflect

In Acts 3, Peter and John heal a man who has been a paralytic since birth. News of the miracle spreads through Jerusalem and 5,000 men come to know Jesus—adding to the 3,000 on the day of Pentecost. The religious leaders, rather than repent for what they did to Jesus, continue to oppose anyone acting in His name. Peter and John are arrested and questioned. The religious leaders are surprised to find these men performing miracles, to be just regular guys. They have the proof of the healed paralytic, but still threaten Peter and John to speak no more to anyone in Jesus's name. But Peter answers that they must listen to God and share what they have seen and heard.

Why do you think God chose to use Peter and John? What gives them such boldness and strength of faith at this point?

Pastor Ernest Smith explains to us that God wants to do something so great that only He can take the credit for it.

1. Why is it important that God gets the credit? What are some of the potential results from God getting the credit rather than us?
 - a. Have you witnessed people giving their lives to Christ?
 - b. Have you seen it lead to people praising and worshipping Him? Helping others?
 - c. How has it changed them?
2. What has happened in your life that can only be attributed to God?
3. What are you currently praying for that is so great it could only be accomplished by God?
 - a. Is there someone or something you've given up on because you thought change couldn't happen? Do you imagine someone too far from Christ to ever find Him?
 - b. Have you found, like Pastor Ernest, that what God asks of you often doesn't make any logical sense? Please share your experience.
 - c. How has God asked you to step out? What is He calling you to do?
4. Are you praying for faith to move in your life? In someone else's?
 - a. Do you believe that God wants to do good things in your life? In your marriage, finances and family? Why or why not?
 - b. Have you come to him in faith?
3. People recognized that Peter and John had been with Jesus. Would someone say that about you? About your life and how you treat others?
 - a. What areas of your life could use spending more time with Jesus? What excuses are you letting hinder God's transforming power in your life?

Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you and hold you accountable in this?