

THE BOOK OF *Acts*

|| Group Discussion Guide ||

May 7, 2023

THE FIRST APOSTOLIC MIRACLE

1

This passage describes the first miracle of the book of Acts--one of the “acts” of the apostles. How does the text point to this being also an act of Jesus, part of his continuing ministry?

2

As Thomas Walker comments on this event, “The power was Christ’s, but the hand was Peter’s.” How does this help us understand the relationship between the acts of the apostles and the acts of Jesus? How does this passage give us a model for understanding the relationship between our ministry and Jesus’?

3

The begging of alms was likely routine for this individual. What was he likely expecting on this day at the Beautiful Gate? How does this event serve as a reminder that God orchestrates “divine appointments”?

4

What might have attracted Peter and John’s attention to the lame beggar? How might their previous ministry experience have primed them to see the need of this man?

5

Why do we get such specific details about who was looking at whom in verses 3-5? Are there any lessons here about where we look in ministry opportunities?

6

Peter could likely have found a way to access “silver and gold” and helped the man financially--why would he choose this means of help instead? What does his physical healing point to?

7

What does it mean to do something “in the name of Jesus”? How should Christians think about using this kind of language?

8

Luke emphasizes that the man is not only walking now, he is leaping. What does this indicate about not only his physical state, but his emotional state? How is Luke aligning this detail with the prophetic vision of Isaiah 53:6?

