

## Series: Centrifugal Faith

### Scripture and Background Information for September 27-October 03.

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

This week we are continuing our series through the book of Acts. Luke, the physician, writes his account about Jesus to show how Jesus continued to build his kingdom. As seen last week, Luke focuses on how Christ changed the lives of people who encountered him.

#### **Background for Acts 3:1-10:**

Jesus told the disciples that they would be his witnesses in Jerusalem, then Judea, then all Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth (1:8). Today's text takes place in central Jerusalem. Believers were still relatively able to proclaim their faith freely. Soon, this would change.

In our text, John and Peter are on their way into the temple to worship Christ.

They are on their way to the temple to pray, probably to meet with other believers (2:46).

While on their way to the temple, they approach a beggar, who expects them to help them with alms. The beggar sat at the "beautiful" gate, begging for some help. Notice the irony! The poor man sits under the beautiful gate. While expecting some alms, Peter and John gave him something better than he ever expected.

After "receiving" Jesus, the beggar went into the temple, worshipping God. His witness became the foundation for Peter's following sermon through which many became believers (4:4).

Some questions to engage with the text:

1. What does Peter's answer tell us about our spiritual bank account (Compare to Ephesians 1:3)?
2. What did John and Peter give the beggar? (Compare to 3:11-26)
3. How was the beggar's life changed? What became his primary role? From beggar to...?

*Notice, the beggar came to the temple to continue his daily routine. Christ totally changed his everyday life. He went from routine to a joyful witness of Christ. How does Christ change your life?*

#### **Scriptures for upcoming weeks:**

October 04-10	Acts 6
October 11-17	Acts 8