

Acts 3 Speaking Jesus

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The Holy Spirit's role when we are speaking Jesus is to prompt us, create opportunity, and convict the world of sin and their need for repentance.

Right after Pentecost in Acts 2, we see the apostles and believers take part in a new way to fellowship. Read Acts 42-47; what do you see the Holy Spirit doing among the believers? How is the way they are living radical?

One way the Holy Spirit was transforming the believers of the Early Church was by growing their compassion and favor for all peoples.

- Courage comes out of communion. Kevin DeYoung

How does the Holy Spirit work among us and through to build the Kingdom of God?

John 16

- **7** Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. **8** And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: **9** concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; **10** concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; **11** concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.
- **13** When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. **14** He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. **15** All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Acts 1

- **8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."
- **26** But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

Solomon's Portico

Acts 3

Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.^[a] **2** And 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. **3** Seeing Peter and John

about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. **4** And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." **5** And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. **6** But 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!" **7** And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. **8** And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. **9** And all the people saw him walking and praising God, **10** and 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.

Observations:

- Disciples and Jesus himself most likely had seen this man who had been laid, crippled, for about 40 years at the Temple's gate.
"We can say that one reason why Jesus didn't heal him is because God's timing is just as important as His will, and it was for the greater glory of God that Jesus healed this man from heaven through His apostles." John Guzik
- Disciples directed their gaze at him, they finally 'saw' him, through their new eyes of compassion.
- Disciples spoke in AUTHORITY and prompting from the Holy Spirit in Jesus' name and the man was healed. He was in a hopeless condition, now fully healed, physically and spiritually by his faith in Christ.
- Healed, the man now embraced Peter and John and entered the temple gates.
 - Jesus is referred to as the Temple of God (John 2:19)
 - Jesus came to annul the works of the Law, the temple was a representation of the ancient law and established religious structures that Jesus radically overcame
 - A man who was kept at the gate, unable to enter the 'temple' was now healed, and able to enter freely
 - "In the context of the preceding emphasis on the temple, and the lame man's exclusion from the temple, Peter's explanation here is part of a narrative theme in Acts 3–7 that unpacks the significance of Jesus in relation to the structures of the old era. In this context, the inadequacy of the temple is contrasted with the all-sufficiency of Jesus." Jesus's Authority Contrasted with the Temple - Alan J Thompson

Acts 3:

11 While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. **12** And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of

Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? **13** The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant^[b] Jesus, whom you delivered 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 for a murderer to be granted to you, **15** and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. **16** And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus^[d] has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

17 “And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. **18** But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. **19** Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, **20** that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, **21** whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago. **22** Moses said, ‘The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. **23** And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.’ **24** And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. **25** You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.’ **26** God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness.”

Observations:

- Peter and John did not orchestrate this meeting, nor did they receive special instructions or sign | They only respond with Jesus’ name and they experience the power of the Holy Spirit through them
- They did this at a time of public prayer in temple courts, where the most publicity would’ve occurred
- Jesus’ name and His works always draws attention; Peter and John saw the people and took the opportunity to share the message of the Gospel
- Peter takes this chance to speak the truth about Jesus, HS drives this ‘speech’ without preparation, without a stage, without a script — what does the HS do through our speaking about Jesus? How does the name of Jesus have power, how is it shown?
- People marvel at the miracle: For miracles are marvels only in relation to the limited powers of man. Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, and David Brown

- In Peter's 'talk', the word confronts the audience of sin, challenges their worldview, convicts them of their sin, proclaims truth, proclaims Jesus' deity, speaks in terms or in a context their understood, attributes miracle to Jesus (He is healer)
- Peter speaks about their God, same God of their forefathers
- Peter mentions names of the Messiah as they were mentioned in the ancient scriptures and prophecies
- Peter reminds them of scriptures the audience would have know, he relates to them Peter speaks to them out of compassion; calling them brothers, attributing their actions to their sin but also to their ignorance
- Speaking Jesus through the power of the HS speaks truth about sin, leads to repentance, fueled by love

- Acts 4
 - see 5,000 came to faith from that sermon
 - Peter and John were recognized as taught by Jesus bc of their boldness

Speaking Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit will bring us to speak the full Gospel message. This means speaking the truth about sin, repentance, eternal life.

Speaking Jesus may allow us to see miracles of all kinds, for He is capable and always working to bring people into the Kingdom of God.

Speaking Jesus through the Holy Spirit means we are seeing people through new eyes, eyes of compassion and favor, as we want them to hear truth and the saving, hopeful message of Jesus.