



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of November 24, 2024

Acts 3:11-26

[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 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 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."

1. How can you tell the difference between Christ-centered and man-centered preaching and ministry?
2. Some of the largest churches in America focus primarily on human prosperity and helping people become a better you. Why is man-centered preaching and ministry ultimately ineffective in advancing the Kingdom of God? Why is it so appealing and embraced by so many?
3. In Acts 3:11-26, Peter does not hesitate to point the finger at the Jews, accusing them of killing the author of life. Do you think this was a good evangelism technique? Why or why not?
4. What do you think will happen if you woo someone to Christ by talking only about Jesus' love and acceptance and emphasizing only His ability to help you make friends, take away your loneliness, help you in your marriage & family, and bring you peace in a chaotic world? Describe that "converts" view of Christ and Christianity.
5. How is the helpless lame man in our passage, a picture of all humanity? Why couldn't gold and silver, even in enormous quantities, solve the lame man's real issue, and similarly, why can't it solve humanities problems? Why then do we put so much emphasis on attaining more, and conversely, never satisfied with what we have?
6. Why does Peter call the Jews to repent? What is repentance and is it necessary for salvation? How do you think repentance blots out our sins and brings times of refreshing?
7. How does joyful willful obedience to the Lord show that we truly understand the Gospel?