

*Recap of 4/25/21 message (Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 3:6-26):*

- 1. On their way to the Temple at the afternoon time of prayer Peter and John encounter a man born lame, asking for alms. Challenging the man about his need of Jesus, he heals him, recalling the ministry of Jesus.*
- 2. "The church is not called to meet the material needs of the world. Now of course it is not wrong to give money...but the basic call of the church is to release the life of God, to declare the power of God, and to make available to men in the name of Jesus the things that only God can do." (Ray Stedman)*
- 3. "Apart from Christ, humanitarian efforts deal with surroundings, but cannot touch the man. Christianity begins with the man and so makes him the instrument for changing his own surroundings. Humanitarian effort plants a garden round a man and leaves him to spoil the garden. Christianity remakes the man, and he makes the garden." (G. Campbell Morgan)*
- 4. We may not have the power to heal but we can follow Peter and John's example and give what we have...a listening ear, a helping hand, love and concern." (Larry Richards)*
- 5. "The miracle of physical healing is rightly seen as an illustration of spiritual healing. The lame man serves as an excellent picture of the helplessness and hopelessness of the sinner (cf. Rom. 5:6; Eph. 2:12) whose only hope is believing in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12. When one believes in Him, then instantaneously there is complete salvation which brings joy to the sinner, praise to God and a testimony to others." (Charles Ryrie)*
- 5. Peter follows the healing with a sermon which highlighted the humanity of Christ, His crucifixion and resurrection from the dead, His fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah, and closes with a challenge to them to respond.*
- 6. He calls them to repent, that is, to change their minds about who Jesus is, and to change the direction of their lives, which is the meaning of the word translated "repent." They had disowned Him, demanded His death, and killed Him. they must "reverse their verdict about Jesus." (George Ladd)*