

How Can We Change Lives?

Date: 2/7/16

Read Together

Read the Scripture and overview below before your Life Group meets.

Scripture passage: Acts 3

If we were honest, at some point in life we all sense a need for change. Perhaps we think of refining our appearance in some way, transforming our way of thinking, or altering the way we feel and respond to those around us. Just because we see this need or even desire to diversify, doesn't mean we possess what we need to make a lasting transition. To truly see a significant shift in our lives, we must go to the power source for change – our Creator, Redeemer, and Transformer – Jesus. Only through looking to Him, will we realize our highest potential and learn to live on mission for Him. Keep in mind, too, that this type of *real change* is what the world around us needs. The greatest treasure we can ever give someone is the gift of pointing a person to Jesus. Yes, Jesus is what the world needs, because in Jesus we find hope, joy, and peace. These priceless treasures empower us to live life on mission and experience the abundant life promised to those who believe in Him.

Pray Together

Use the first few minutes of your lesson to lead your group in a focused prayer time.

- **Praise** Jesus as the Author, Perfector, and Finisher of your faith.
- **Repent** from any resistance you have as the Holy Spirit works to transform you into the image of Christ.
- **Ask** the Holy Spirit to affect change in your life and to help you affect change in someone else's life this week.
- **Yield** to the Spirit's power and obey!

Discuss Together

Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion with your Life Group.

- Ask someone to share spiritual changes that have occurred in their life recently.
- Ask someone to share a time when they affected change in the life of someone else by pointing him or her to Jesus.

Read Acts 3:1-16

- What was Peter's response to the lame man who was begging for help?
- What is your first response when someone comes to you in need? As believers what should our first response be?
- Like Jesus did when He was here on earth, Peter spoke to the man's deepest and most fervent need. The man's soul was sick and needed healing. Once the man's soul was mended, through the blood of Jesus, the physical aspects of his life could be restored. How is the true of all of us today?



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- The lame man was defined by his disability. He could not walk, work, or worship.
 - As believers we are redeemed, but we still suffer from the brokenness of sin that manifests itself in our lives. Discuss how the disability of sin affects a believer's walk, work, and worship.
 - Talk about ways those who do not know Christ are affected by the brokenness of sin in the way they walk. (See Nehemiah 8:10, John 16:33, Romans 15:13)
 - Talk about ways those who do not know Christ are affected by the brokenness of sin in the way they work. (See Philippians 2:3-8)
 - Talk about ways those who do not know Christ are affected by the brokenness of sin in the way they worship. (Isaiah 44:6, John 4:23, Romans 1:25)
- Discuss the "look at us" reference from Acts 3:4 Pastor McKinley spoke about in his message. Why should believers want others to "look at us"? (See Matthew 5:16)
- Is your walk with Christ authentic? When others *look at you*, do they see you or do they see the image and power of Christ in you?
- What might need to change in your life so that Christ is more evident to others?
- **Read Romans 6:1-14.** What does it mean to walk in newness of life?
 - We have new power. (Galatians 5:16)
 - We have new purpose. (Ephesians 2:10)
 - We have new passion. (Ephesians 5:2)
 - We have a new perspective. (1 Thessalonians 2:12)
- In his message Pastor McKinley said, "Our greatest treasure is their greatest triumph." What is your greatest treasure? Are you giving your children, your co-workers, your friends, and neighbors who do not know Jesus your greatest treasure or are you giving them something else?

Do Life Together

These questions are meant to encourage you to apply spiritual truth and live on mission for Jesus. It is your Life Group leader's responsibility to challenge you and hold you accountable to taking steps of growth and faith. Take these questions to heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you to grow in your role as a disciple and ultimately, a disciple-maker.

- The greatest need of the human soul is to hear and know of Christ and His power to save. Who will you give your greatest treasure to this week? Share this with someone and ask him or her to hold you accountable to sharing the Gospel with someone this week.



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