



# *The Story @ Home*

3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>

**Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story**  
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2019-2020)

**Lesson #2-32**  
Acts 3:1-10

## *Last Week*

Forty days after his resurrection, Jesus tells his disciples that they will receive the Holy Spirit and go to the ends of the world to be witnesses. Jesus ascends into heaven and the disciples return to Jerusalem (Acts 1:1-14).

## *This Week*

Peter and John prove to be the witnesses Jesus said they would become in this week's story as they heal a man lame from birth in the name of Jesus (Acts 3:1-10).

## *Story Summary*

It is on their way to pray at the temple that Peter and John enact the first recorded act of healing after Jesus ascension to heaven. They encounter a man who could not walk who asks them for some money. They respond that they have no gold but they will give the man what they have. They speak healing words over the man and he is able to walk again. Although they do not give the man the temporary relief he requests, what they do give him is infinitely more valuable— healing which will transform his life forever.

## *Practice: Prayer*

Prayer happens any time we intentionally share our lives with God, or hear what God says to us. Prayer can happen not only through our speaking, but also through our singing, creative expression, and imaginative meditation. Whatever vehicle we choose, though, we can rest assured that God is willing and able to hear us and respond with compassion and loving action. Create your own special place in your home for your family to gather to pray together.

## *The Point*

What we do has the power to touch others with God's love.

## *Bible Nuts & Bolts*

### *The Story of the Early Church*

The early church began on the first Pentecost when many disciples of Jesus were given the Holy Spirit. They began to preach the good news about Jesus. The main leadership of the early church was in Jerusalem, led by the apostles and James, Jesus' brother. The early church also faced persecution from Roman and Jewish authorities. Paul started out as a persecutor of Christians but converted to Christianity. Paul went on three mission trips to spread the news of Jesus to the Gentiles, or people who were not Jewish. This led to a controversy in the church. Some people thought only Jews could become Christian. The first Council of Jerusalem decided that anybody could become Christian and Paul could continue his missionary work.

## *Next Week*

We move from Jerusalem and Palestine to follow Paul and Silas as they start the church in Thessalonica. Just as Peter healed in the name of Jesus, Paul will preach in his name (Acts 17:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10).

### Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ In what way does this text teach about the theme that God Works through Us?
- ✚ What does this scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

### Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

#### Sunday—Read Acts 3:1-10

Peter heals.

Make a prayer corner in your own home, perhaps using the Beautiful Gate artwork as a centerpiece.

#### Monday—Read Acts 3:11-16

Peter addresses the people.

What would you say if you had to tell others about Jesus? Practice your speech.

#### Tuesday—Read Acts 16:1-10

Paul's mission heads west.

Sometimes God calls us to surprising places. Share a time God called you that you did not expect.

#### Wednesday—Read Acts 16:11-18

Encountering Lydia and a slave girl.

Wear something purple while you read the story of Lydia.

#### Thursday—Read Acts 16:19-24

Paul and Silas are arrested.

Talk about justice. Look online for stories of people who have been arrested for standing up for what is right.

#### Friday—Read Acts 16:25-34

An earthquake in prison.

Act out this story together.

#### Saturday—Read Acts 16:35-40

Paul and Silas are released.

Talk about a time that your faith has made things difficult or challenging for you.