

# Readings

## Scripture

<sup>1</sup> Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. <sup>4</sup> And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." <sup>5</sup> And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. <sup>6</sup> 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!" <sup>7</sup> And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. <sup>8</sup> And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. <sup>9</sup> And all the people saw him walking and praising God, <sup>10</sup> 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.

- Acts 3:1-10 (*English Standard Version*)

## Reflection

"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

- Frederick Buechner

# Sermon Outline

**A Sign Produces Wonder**  
Acts 3:1-10

*The Acts of the Apostles*  
Stephen Baldwin

*In his great love, Jesus is pleased at times to make great, and undeniable, public displays of his grace.*

### **In his great love, in a public display of his grace...**

**Jesus brings his servants and great needs together.** (Acts 3:1-5)

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**Jesus displays his omnipotent power to restore all that is broken.** (Acts 3:6-7)

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**Jesus rescues the whole person, restoring him to God.** (Acts 3:8-10)

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### **Reflection Questions** (taken in part from the *Serendipity Study Bible for Groups*)

- What does the apostles' practice of observing set times of prayer suggest to you about the rhythms of healthy spirituality?
- About healing...reflecting on scripture, why doesn't God just heal everyone now? Why do you think there was so much healing and deliverance from Satanic oppression evident in Jesus' ministry and then the apostles'?
- Are there any attesting evidences to the gospel that we should look for today as we pray and live in obedience to Christ's Great Commission?
- What do you see around you that shows the ongoing work of God, whether big and public or more hidden?