

SUNDAY RECAP

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

The *Sunday Recap* is a quick rundown of our time of worship together on Sunday and a quick look ahead. Our hope is that this will help us continue to reflect on the good news of the gospel all week long. Enjoy!

LENT COMMUNITY DEVOTIONAL

Here is a great Lent Community Devotional for you to consider and invite others to go through it with you: [Living Through Dying: 6-week Community Guide Through Lent](#)

LEARNING TO LIVE “ON MISSION”

A resource we have been going back to over and over to help us live ordinary lives with “gospel intentionality” and pursue those who don't yet know Christ together (and it's really SIMPLE which we like a lot) 😊----> [Simple Ways to Be Missional](#) by Verge Network

PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY -----

Sermon Scripture: Acts 4:1-31

And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.” So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we

have seen and heard.” And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

“Why did the Gentiles rage,
and the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers were gathered together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed’

for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

REFLECT ON LAST SUNDAY -----

SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON

Acts 3:19–20

Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- In our Passing of the Peace this week, Joe said “Jesus Christ has risen and we are united to Him. We are also united to one another.” Do you have relationships within our church that look like “united to one another”? How is that relationship (or those relationships) a picture of our union to Christ? Do you have relationships within our church that are broken, need restoring, or in an awkward place? What can you do to restore that relationship? Do you not have any close relationships in our church? How can you pursue new relationship within our church family?
- In our prayer of Confession Pastor Ryan read a quote from ***Humble Roots*** by Hannah Anderson-
“When we disregard our human limitations, we often unknowingly set ourselves in God’s place. When we believe that with enough effort, enough organization, or enough commitment, we can fix things that are broken, we set ourselves in God’s place. And when we do, we reap stress, restlessness, and anxiety.”
How has the disregard of limitations wreaked havoc on your life? Where do you see it?
How have limitations played a role in shaping you? How have they been revealed to you?
- Why was it important to the story that we know this lame man was lame from birth (Acts 3:2)?
- Pastor Ryan said the lame man was a picture of our spiritual need. How would you describe your spiritual “lameness”?
- How is your resurrected life a picture of the work of Christ? In what ways/areas would you like that to grow in your life?

QUESTIONS FOR KIDS

NEW CITY CATECHISM Question #30

Q: What is Faith in Jesus?

A: Faith in Jesus Christ is acknowledging the truth of everything that God has revealed in his Word, trusting in him, and also receiving and resting on him alone for salvation as he is offered to us in the gospel.

Reflection Questions:

- Do you feel like other people at church are family? Why do you think that is? (Connect them to the fact that Jesus has made us God's family by his life, death, and resurrection. Help them see that it's like they have a HUGE extended family, lots of brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, grandmas, and grandpas in Christ!)
- Read the story of Peter healing the lame man (Acts 3:1-10) or of Jesus healing the paralyzed man (Luke 5:17-26) and discuss how Jesus is the Healer and just like those physical healings he heals our sinful hearts by dying for us and raising to new life. How do you know you are a sinner and need a savior? Do you believe Jesus can give you his perfect life and save you from your sinfulness? Isn't Jesus really great!?!?

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

Articles: [What God Sees When He Looks at His Church](#) by Leah Baugh

[The Church is More Than People](#) by Timothy Massero

[Ten Things You Should Know About God's Presence](#) by J. Ryan Lister

Book: [Total Church](#) by Timmis and Chester

SONGS WE SANG **Check out our Spotify playlist here: <https://goo.gl/BQddvV>*

[Oh How I Need You](#) by All Sons and Daughters

[Lead Me to the Cross](#) by Shane and Shane

[Awake my Soul](#) by Derek Webb

[Thou Lovely Source of True Delight](#) by Jars of Clay

[Calvary](#) by Hillsong

READINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Children of God gathered here, the Lord is good. He invites you to come and drink deeply of the fountain of life.

C: Lord Jesus, we come to you.

L: Though your sins have produced death in your members, our Lord has delivered us this day from the law of death within us.

C: We thank you Lord for your saving grace!

L: Though evil lies close at hand, our Savior lies closer. He has given us his perseverance and strength.

C: We thank you Lord for your loving-kindness!

L: Though the law of God reveals our disobedience, we are not turned away but rather given the obedience of Christ.

C: We thank you Lord for your perfect life!

L: Children of God, the Lord is good. He invites you to come and eat of the bread of life.

C: Lord Jesus, we come to you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Lord we have disregarded our human limitations, considered ourselves to have unlimited power and set ourselves in Your place.

C: Lord, forgive us.

L: We have seen ourselves as your workers, responsible for great things, rather than your children who have received everything in Christ.

C: Lord, forgive us.

L: We have chosen our own way of fixing, managing, and tweaking rather than your way of death and resurrection

C: Lord, forgive us.

L: We are a stressed, restless, and anxious people.

C: God have mercy on us. Give us eyes to see and ears to hear. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WORD OF ASSURANCE

As we feel the conviction upon our hearts, let that have its proper and God ordained affect. Let it lead us to Christ rather than to our ability to do better. Your sins have been paid for, Christ is your savior. Hear these words from Isaiah 53.

Isaiah 53:5

But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.

Your sins were laid upon Him. All of them. And He has received them, gone to the grave for them, but the grave couldn't hold him down. He rose in triumphant victory and now we receive the best three words we could ever hear- You Are Forgiven.

No matter who you are, not matter what your sins are, forgiveness is yours in the death of Christ. Receive his forgiveness now and be at peace. LET HIS WOUNDS SPEAK TO YOU- YOU ARE FORGIVEN!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jesus Christ has risen and we are united to Him. We are also united to one another. As an expression of the peace we have, take a moment to greet one another now. Go out of your way to greet someone you haven't met. Even if it means doing something really crazy and unthinkable, like walking over to a different side of the room.

BENEDICTION

L: May all of your expectations be frustrated,
May all of your plans be thwarted,
May all of your desires be withered into nothingness,
That you may experience the powerlessness and poverty of a child
And can sing and dance in the love of God
Who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Peace be with you!

C: And also with you!

SERMON REVIEW

Sermon title: The First Miracle, Acts 3

Watch it again here: <https://cccplainfield.org/sermon/the-first-miracle/>

Sermon Overview:

In Acts 3 we see the first recorded miracle within the first church, done by the Apostle Peter. Peter then follows with a speech (or sermon) which tells of the miracles significance. He says this healing is a SIGN, an ILLUSTRATION, and a PREVIEW.

SERMON SUMMARY: The power of miracles is in their source, not their display

First it is a *sign* because it points us to something greater. Notice Peter doesn't spend much time at all discussing the miracle healing. Instead he talks about salvation in Jesus. This is why Peter says "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?" (3:12). He is reminding them that this is the work of Jesus through His Spirit that dwells in them (remember Acts 2). Peter is telling them not to be surprised that the miracles of Jesus are continuing through them. He is present and active among his people (as He has been ever since). So this is not merely imitation, it isn't simply that Peter saw Jesus do this (which he most likely did) so now he imitates what Jesus did. Rather, it is Jesus working in and through His people. That is what Peter is pointing us to.

Secondly, this healing is an Illustration. What I mean is that the lame beggar is a good metaphor for us, spiritually. It is an illustration of our *spiritual condition* in that his disabling condition was from birth, he cant escape it, he's reminded of it daily, and it defines him. Its also an illustration of our *spiritual need*. He sits there begging because he is thinking about his immediate and physical needs, nothing wrong with that, but Peter knows what he needs more than that- to be healed and know the power of Jesus. Lastly, its an illustration of our *spiritual healing*. Just as this man's ankles were made strong "immediately" (3:7) and was given "perfect health" (3:16) so our salvation in Christ is immediate, complete, and final. The very second we believe we receive forgiveness of sins and receive the full righteousness of Christ (see v.19-20)

Thirdly, this healing is a preview. Peter tells us in verse 21 that when Jesus returns it will be the "time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago." This mans complete healing is a picture of our future- when our complete healing from sin is finally and fully realized. No more sin, nor more death, no more pain, no more struggle, but only "times of refreshing" (v.20) with Jesus. We often consider the question, "What will eternity be like?" I think we have a great picture here. It will be something like a man who was lame from birth being instantly healed and walking and leaping and praising God. Hallelujah!