



Acts 3:1-10

Aim: to discover that God's Holy Spirit helps us to help others



Following Pentecost Jesus's friends began to stride out with a new kind of faith into their ministries. They began performing powerful miracles, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Gate Beautiful, the spot where story is set is a great big wooden gate surrounded by huge stones leading to the Temple in the city of Jerusalem. We hear of a lame man, who relied on being carried daily to his begging spot. A strategic place to catch the attention of the wealthy and to stir the guilt of any passing temple visitor.

Peter and John were heading there themselves when the man called out for money. Rather than keep their heads down and determinedly ignore the beggar's call, both men looked straight at the man. I wonder why? Was it simply Christian charity? Did God's Spirit prompt them? They were certainly quick to point out their own lack of financial means but instead offered something far better - healing. The Acts account is clear that this healing was instant. Strength came immediately to the man's feet and ankles and he began walking and leaping. Just imagine the spectacle! And the result was instant praise. We should remember that miracles are not only for the people who benefit but ultimately to bring praise and glory to the Lord.



Play Jumping Beans warm up game. Call out different kinds of beans and leading everyone in the actions, eg, Jumping beans, runner beans, broad beans

Play Simon Peter says... encouraging everyone to copy the action if you say Simon Peter says, and not to, if you don't.



In our first game today we had fun doing running, leaping and jumping. The man in the story today couldn't do any of that at first. His legs and his feet had a problem. In our game, we did what Simon Peter said. In today's story Peter tells the man to do something. Let's listen to the story and find out what happens.

Read Walking, leaping and praising God, pg. 23.

Ask everyone to wiggle their toes and to jump up at the appropriate part in the story. Invite everyone to jump, leap and shout 'Thank you, God' at the end of the story



- *I wonder what it is like not to be able to see*
- *I wonder if we would have stopped to help the man*
- *I wonder if the man expected to get better*
- *I wonder how it felt when his ankles and feet suddenly got better*
- *I wonder if miracles happen today*



Play Simon Peter says again but with two instructions: SP says hands in fists, SP says Open hands. As you give the instructions throw a large balloon/soft ball for people to 'catch'. After the game: *When our hands are in tight fists we can't catch! The man had to be open to letting God heal him. We too need to be open to God helping us.*



- **Role Play.** Provide a mat and begging bowl and chocolate or play coins. Create a space for lots of leaping and dancing
- **Give everyone a cardboard template of a man to decorate, and two clothes pegs which can be attached to the bottom and rotated to make the man stand**
- **Play the corners carousel game:** Choose 4 physical exercises, i.e. star jumps, running on the spot, frog leaps and side rolls. Everyone has timed stints in each area then swap to the next until they have visited each area.



Today we are going to ask God to help us.

Hold out your arms in front of you. Turn your palms up and stretch out your fingers.

Dear Lord Jesus,

You know all the things that we need today,

We come to you ready to let you help us, from the tops of our heads (touch your heads),

to the tips of our toes (touch your toes).

We say a big thank you because you are A-Ma-Zing!

Amen! (Roll arms upwards for a slow loud amen together)



- **Peter and John went to Pray**
https://youtu.be/WdpOravne_4
- **Shine**
- **This little light of mine**
- **May the God of Hope (action song)**
<https://youtu.be/yXZYzXNjEY>



Watch a short clip of the story:
<https://youtu.be/orp4ZT9710Y>

Give everyone a template for a concertina legged man to make at home

[The Lame Man on the Way – Resource for Kids Ministry](#)

