

Acts of the Holy Spirit  
“God of the Impossible” – Series

~READ TEXT~

AS YOU SETTLE IN...

- Turn to [\(Acts 3:1-26\) NLT](#)

~LET'S PRAY~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled todays message: **The Miracle is the Message.**

~INTRO~

AS WE DIVE INTO [\(Acts 3\)](#)...

- Let's approach this chapter with the **basic idea**...
  - That God is able to change tragedy into triumph!
    - AND what seems like defeat... into a new beginning!

HE'S ABLE TO BRING A MESSAGE OF HOPE...

- From circumstances of pain & disappointment.

- His gracious response free's us from the root issues...
  - That have caused us to be stuck.

**HERE'S WHAT OUR TEXT SAYS TODAY:**

- Read [\(Acts 3:1-9\) NLT](#)

**IDEA #1 – THE MIRACLE:**

NOW...

- As we start to understand what's happening in this chapter...
  - Let's make a few observations.

**FIRST...**

- Remember the scene.
  - The birth of the church just happened a few weeks back...
    - OR maybe even as long as a few months earlier [\(Acts 2\)](#).

**SECOND...** remember the practices of the day.

- The early Christians were using the structure of Judaism in Jerusalem...
  - For gathering, worshiping, & praying at the Temple – [\(v.1\)](#).

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HISTORICALLY...

- Prayer at the Temple happened three times a day...  
➤ 9:00am / 12:noon / & 3:00pm.
  - c.p. ([Ps. 55:17](#)) NKJV
  - ([Dan. 6:10 b](#)) NKJV

WE KNOW...

- That Peter & John were men of:
  - 1) Men of prayer ([v.1](#))
  - 2) Men of faith ([vv.6-7](#))
  - 3) Men of the word ([vv.22-24](#))
  - 4) Men filled with the Spirit ([Acts 2:4](#))

CHEW ON THIS FOR A MOMENT...

- How many people say they want to be used by God...  
➤ YET... never take any steps of faith...
  - To see what God might do... [c.p. \(1 Sam. 14:6\)](#) NKJV.

TWO TIMES IN THIS CHAPTER...

- Peter stepped out in faith ([v.7](#)) NLT & ([v.12](#)) NLT

NOW... MAKE THIS PERSONAL!

- How many things are you missing out on...  
➤ Simply because fear has kept you from stepping out!?!
  - Who needs to take a bold step of faith for victory?
  - Who would like to go to Israel?
  - Who would like to do a mission trip?
  - Who would like to head up some local outreach?
  - Who has a gift you're not sharing with the church?

Who thinks your current trial exempts you from steps of faith AND helping others?

LISTEN... THE SECRET OF GREAT FAITH:

- a) Believing that God is able (passive faith)
- b) Believing that God is willing (active faith) (belief in action) ([vv.6-7](#)).

DON'T MISS THE SIMPLE EXAMPLE HERE...

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- Peter & John were just ministering the way they saw Jesus do it.
  - Jesus spoke words of faith to hurting people...
    - AND their lives were changed!

**REMEMBER:**

- (Luke 5:24-b) NLT – (paralyzed man)
  - “*Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home.!*”
- (Luke 6:10) NLT – (man with a deformed hand)
  - “*Hold out your hand.*”

THESE TWO MEN...

- *Responded to Jesus* AND their lives were changed!
  - They didn't make *excuses*... they *obeyed*.

**LET'S TALK ABOUT HEALINGS:**

- a) *Instantly* (Luke 5:24) & (Luke 6:10)
  - i. *Stand up* OR *hold out*.
- b) *Gradually* with a change of location (Mark 8:22-26) NLT
  - i. Led the man out of the village.
    - (Maybe God is directing you out of trouble)
  - ii. Spit in the man's eye.
    - (God's response to your situation is not normal)
  - iii. Placed His hands on the man's eye. (Physical touch is needed)
  - iv. Told him don't go back. (God's warning – c.p. John 5:14 NLT)
- c) Sometimes God says His *grace is sufficient* (2 Cor 12:7-9) NLT
  - i. Paul's constant eye condition keep him humble.
- d) Other times it's *the furnace of affliction* that frees us (Dan. 3:25) NLT

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- i. The fire burned away the ropes.
- ii. Movement was restored in the furnace of affliction.
- iii. They were unharmed by the flames of trouble.
- iv. Jesus was standing with them – God’s presence was near.

**IDEA #2 – THE MESSAGE:**

WHO DOES THIS MESSAGE APPLY TO TODAY?

- 1) Those with a **physical malady** like Paul’s (blindness).
  - Please know that God’s sustaining grace is with you!
- 2) Maybe you’re **Fighting a divorce**?
  - Please know that God sees your heart being ripped out...
    - And he’ll give you a preserving grace!
- 3) Maybe you’ve **been victimized**?
  - And now a location change is needed & you’re not to go back.
- 4) Maybe God has an **instant healing** for you today?
  - Well... that’s His miraculous grace in the moment!

**LISTEN...**

- No matter what your situation is...
  - Please remember it’s all about His grace!

THE HEIGHT OF GOD’S CALL ON YOUR LIFE...

- Is always associated with the depth of testing He walks you thru!

HAVE THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS OF YOUR LIFE...

- Been laced with trouble?
  - Don’t lose heart... because God is working out His plan... in you!
    - God is not ignoring you!

**~IN CLOSING~**

**HERE’S THE BIG IDEA...**

- Your changed life is the miracle...
  - Thru which God demonstrates His loving power.

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- **“The Miracle is the Message”**

IN OTHER WORDS... YOUR TESTIMONY...

- Distributes the power of God's love as a living witness...  
➤ Of His grace!

YOUR PRESENT PAIN...

- Is God's opportunity to show Himself strong on your behalf!

(2 Chronicles 16:9) NLT

*“The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth  
in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him.”*