



Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 5

Law/Gospel

Disability and illness are physical symptoms of sin in the world.

Through His Son, God gives me forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation—the cure for all sin.

Bible Words

Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out.
Acts 3:19

The Big Picture

Caiaphas, the high priest, and the members of the religious Council who condemned Jesus to death still oversaw the temple when the Twelve taught in Jerusalem. Despite this, the apostles did not avoid the leaders or the temple. They worshiped there daily.

When the healing of the lame man caused a ruckus, the high priest and Council questioned Peter and John. They told the apostles not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.

Peter and John replied, “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” (Acts 4:19–20). Jesus’ disciples were eye-witnesses of His words and actions.

Peter and John Heal the Lame Man

Acts 3

Walking into the temple for evening prayer, Peter and John met a lame man begging for alms, which might include money or food for the poor. More generally, alms include any acts of mercy.

Hearing the man’s cry, Peter responded with the only mercy he had, the command to walk in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Peter helped the man stand. With strengthened ankles and feet, the man leaped up. He began to walk and entered the temple with them, “walking and leaping and praising God” (v. 8).

People recognized the man and felt astounded. They ran to see the three men in Solomon’s Portico, a covered porch inside the temple. Peter spoke boldly about the power that healed the man. He said, “You killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And His name—by faith in His name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all” (vv. 15–16).

Peter acknowledged that the people acted in ignorance. He called them to repent, receive forgiveness of sins, and know Jesus, the Messiah promised by the Old Testament prophets.

This same mercy flows to us from Christ’s perfect life, death, and resurrection. We hear, receive, and experience this mercy through the hearing, teaching, and preaching of God’s Word, Baptism, Confession and Absolution, and the Lord’s Supper. In these ways, God gives us what Christ accomplished on the cross for us, the forgiveness of our sin.

Because of Christ’s work, we stand before God confident in His love and forgiveness.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, open our hearts to hear Your Word, repent of our sin, and receive Your mercy, the forgiveness of sins. Amen.