

### *Expectations*

- When might people have high expectations for an event or a strategy or a decision?
- Having high expectations
  - What are some risks of having **high expectations**?
- Having low expectations
  - Why do we sometimes choose to have low expectations?
  - What are some risk of having **low expectations**?
- What are your expectations for God's actions in our lives today?

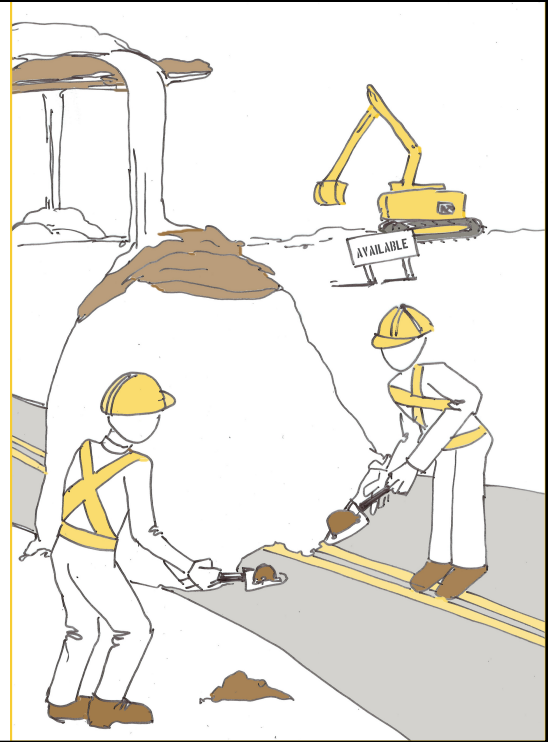
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- What are your expectations for God's actions in our lives today? or **for this morning**?

## Immeasurably More

### Acts 3:1-10

Chinese: page 1767  
 Spanish: page 1387  
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### *Thinking back to last week*

- God is alive in the church **through His people** by the power of the Holy Spirit *from Acts 2:42-47*
  - See my action as a means of God's grace for others
  - See others' actions as a means of God's grace for me
- Jesus said: “**Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.**” *John 13:17*
  - We need to **spur each other on** to love and good deeds
  - Key purpose of Life Groups, family conversations, mentoring, fellowship, ...

spur = stimulate, prompt, prod



*Acts 2:42-47*

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. **Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.** All the believers were together and had everything in common. **They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day** they continued to **meet together in the temple courts.** They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, **praising God** and enjoying the favor of all the people. And **the Lord added to their number daily** those who were being saved.

*For example...*

*Acts 3:1-10*

**1-3:** Peter & John went to the Temple to pray to God  
A lame man came to beg for money from people

4-7:

8:

9-10:

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*Acts 3:1-10*

1-3: Peter & John went to the Temple to pray to God  
A lame man came to beg for money from people

4-7: Instead of money, Peter gives healing in Jesus' name  
Man is instantly and miraculously healed

- Peter didn't find faith

8: • Peter called for faith

9-10:

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8: The man rejoices, leaping to the praise of God

- 7 verbs → he was actively praising!

9-10:



### Isaiah 35:4-7, 10: Predicting Jesus' coming

Say to those with fearful hearts,  
 "Be strong,  
 do not fear;

**your God will come,**  
**he will come**  
 with vengeance;  
 with divine retribution  
**he will come** to save you."

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened  
 and the ears of the deaf unstopped.  
 Then will **the lame leap like a deer**,  
 and the mute tongue shout for joy.  
 Water will gush forth in the wilderness  
 and streams in the desert.

God's Messiah (Jesus)

God's people by the Holy Spirit

The burning sand will become a pool,  
 the thirsty ground bubbling springs.  
 In the haunts where jackals once lay,  
 grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

They will enter Zion with **singing**;  
**everlasting joy** will crown their heads.  
**Gladness and joy** will overtake them,  
 and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

### Acts 3:1-10

1-3: Peter & John went to the Temple to pray to God  
 A lame man came to beg for money from people

4-7: Instead of money, Peter gives healing in Jesus' name  
 Man is instantly and miraculously healed

8: The man rejoices, leaping to the praise of God

9-10: The people are stunned by this work of God

- What impressed them: man with a lifelong disability  
 & without hope, now walking and praising God

### *The Big Idea*

**Jesus Christ, in His words and works,  
continues to enact His limitless power on earth  
in the church  
through the Holy Spirit**

*“In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about  
all that Jesus began to do and to teach...”*

*In this book, I write about  
what Jesus continued to do and to teach*

### *Application*

- Have greater faith in Christ’s power today
  - “Now to him who is **able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine**, according to his power that is at work **within us**, to him be **glory in the church and in Christ Jesus** throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” *Ephesians 3:20-21*



### *Application*

- Have greater faith in Christ's power today
- Have greater expectations for Christ's work today

### *Matthew 9:27-30*

As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"

When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him, and he asked them, "**Do you believe that I am able to do this?**"

"Yes, Lord," they replied.

Then he touched their eyes and said, "**According to your faith let it be done to you**"; and their sight was restored.

**WHAT IF THAT IS HOW JESUS WORKS TODAY??**

### *Application*

- Have greater faith in Christ's power today
- Have greater expectations for Christ's work today
- Submit with confidence to God's will
  - “Heaven must receive Jesus **until the time comes for God to restore everything**, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.” *Acts 3:21*
  - “Abba, Father,” he said, “**everything is possible** for you. Take this cup from me. **Yet not what I will**, but what you will.” *Mark 14:36*

### *Application*

- Have greater faith in Christ's power today
- Have greater expectations for Christ's work today
- Submit with confidence to God's will
  - God has something much better for you and for me than we want for ourselves

#### **Examples:**

- I want to be cured  
while God wants me to be healed
- I want to have a better life  
while God wants me to be become more like Jesus



*Application*

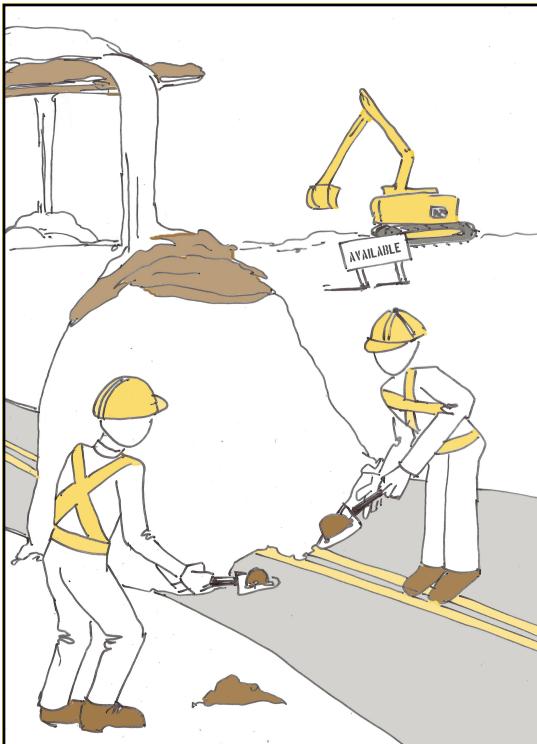
- Have greater faith in Christ's power today
- Have greater expectations for Christ's work today
- Submit with confidence to God's will
  - God's ways are far better for us than our ways
  - Someday we will be thrilled that He took His ways rather than our ways!
    - The man wanted money, which Peter didn't give
    - Instead, Peter gave the man a new life

*The Big Idea*

**Jesus Christ, in His words and works,  
continues to enact His limitless power on earth  
in the church  
through the Holy Spirit**

### *Imagine*

- Visiting the doctor with a serious condition
  - Painful, disabling, perhaps life threatening
- Finding that there is a cure if given the right medicine
  - Yet that hospital doesn't actually use medicine
  - They just talk about it





### **An individual**

~~A group of Christians~~ who mean well and work hard  
doing good church things

yet without the **active pursuit of and dependence upon  
the living and active presence of God  
through Jesus Christ  
in the Holy Spirit**

is empty and pathetic at best  
and is almost certainly much worse

Pray: sincere confession  
faith-filled intercession  
joyful thanksgiving  
passionate praise  
Obey: love God deeply  
love people richly

### *The Big Idea*

**Jesus Christ, in His words and works,  
continues to enact His limitless power on earth  
in the church  
through the Holy Spirit**

**OH, THE JOY!**

### *Expectations*

- Times when people might have high expectations
  - Having high expectations
    - What is the risk of high expectations?
  - Having low expectations
    - Why do we sometimes choose to have low expectations?
    - What is the risk of low expectations?
- What are your expectations for God's actions in our lives today?

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the **hope** to which he has called you, the riches of his **glorious inheritance** in his holy people, and his **incomparably great power** for us who believe. That **power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead** and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. *Ephesians 1:18-21*