

The Witness Mindset: Expectancy

Text: Acts 3:1-10

February 4, 2023

Big Idea: To live as faithful witnesses for Christ, we must live expectant for the work of Christ.

Context is key!

Question #1 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

Question #2 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What does the text say about God and about me?

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) Does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

Question #3 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What are the principles, commands or promises given?

- a) What is the overall theme of the text?
- b) Does the passage include any promise from God? If so, what?

Question #4 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is the application?

- a) What is one specific way I can live by these truths, or trust in these promises today?
- b) What is the next step that I need to take to see this happen?

Question #5

- a) Why is living with an expectation of Christ's work essential for faithfulness in Christ's work?
- b) Do you struggle to live with a gospel expectancy each day? Why or why not?
- c) What are some things that can derail our expectancy of Christ's work each day?
- d) Spend time in prayer as a group over these things.

The mindset of witness is expectancy, you must believe...

Point 1: Let's NEVER just another MOMENT (vv. 1-5)

Question: Every moment is an opportunity. Are you living with gospel expectancy?

Question #6

- a) **Rd. vv.1-5:** What were Peter and John doing in going to the temple?
- b) How often did they do this?
- c) Why would it have been so easy for them to miss the gospel opportunity right in front of them?
- d) Who has God 'laid daily' in front of you to share the gospel with?
- e) Spend time as a group praying together for those people and your witness to them.

The mindset of witness is expectancy, you must believe...

Point 2: It's NEVER just another NAME (vv. 6-8)

Question: The power is in the Name of Jesus. Will you believe He's enough?

Question #7

- a) **Rd. vv. 6-8:** What was it that the beggar thought that he needed the most?
- b) Who was it that Peter knew the man needed the most?
- c) What was Peter dependent on in witnessing to this man?
- d) What happened when Peter stepped out by faith in the Spirit's power at that moment?
- e) Do you struggle to believe that Jesus' power is enough for you in your witness? Why or why not?
- f) What are some signs that our dependency has shifted from Jesus to ourselves in our witness?
- g) Look up 2-3 Scripture passages that show how, through the gospel, Jesus has equipped us with all we need to be His witnesses.

The mindset of witness is expectancy, you must believe...

Point 3: It's NEVER just an ISOLATED ACT (vv.9-10)

Question: Faithfulness is multiplied. Will you trust even when you can't see it?

Question #8

- a) **Rd. vv. 9-10:** How did the crowd respond when they saw how God worked?
- b) **Rd. Acts 4:4:** What resulted from Peter's preaching in the Spirit's power about what happened?
- c) Does this mean that all who we witness to in God's power will turn to Him? Why or why not?
- d) Why is so difficult to trust God to use our faithful witness when we can't see it's effects?

Question #9

- a) What are some tools that God has given us, that will help grow our expectancy for His work?
- b) Spend time in prayer as a group for one another in your day by day witness to those around you.

Prayer Application

Spend time as a group or in accountability praying out of Acts 3:1-10. Some prompts are below.

- a) **ADORATION:** Jesus I praise you because you...
- b) **CONFESSION:** Jesus, I confess...i) My unbelief in_____ ii) My dependency on_____ and not You
- c) **THANKSGIVING:** Jesus, I thank you for giving the Holy Spirit who...
- d) **SUPPLICATION:** Jesus, I ask you: i) To help me live with an expectant mindset for your work ii) Depend on You alone in my witness iii) To bring_____ to salvation!

Memory Verse:

"But Peter said, 'I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!'"-Acts 3:7

