

## LESSON PLAN

### LAME MAN WALKS

Acts 3:1 – 4:4

**Lesson Memory Verse:** 1 Thessalonians 2:12 - “**That you would walk worthy of God** who has called you unto his kingdom and glory.” (Grades 1 & 2 memorize the portion in **bold**.)

**Lesson Aim:** Teach children to trust Jesus Christ for His power to live a godly life.

**Lesson Plan:** Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

**KEY (for Attention):** Some children are born deaf. They never hear a sound during their entire lives. Can you tell me something you like to hear that deaf children are never able to hear? (Let the children tell you of the sounds they like to hear.)

Some children are born blind. They never see anything during their entire lives. Can you tell me something you like to see that blind children never see? (Let the children tell you of the things they like to see.)

In today’s lesson we are going to hear about a man that was born lame. He had never walked in his entire life. Let us think about how much we use our legs. Tell me the things that you do with your legs. (Some answers: walk, run, jump rope, ride bicycles, play ball games, climb gym sets, hop, crawl, ski, skate, swim, etc.) There are many things that you cannot do if you cannot use your legs. It used to be that most lame people were very poor because they could not find much work that they could do. There are more jobs today for lame people, but it is still hard to find work when you are lame. Thank God if you have two good legs.

**HE (for Authority):** Our memory verse reminds us that God wants us to “walk worthy” of His name. Read 1 Thessalonians 2:12. What does it mean to “walk worthy of God”? When we talk about walking, we usually think about how we use our legs; but when we talk about walking “worthy of God,” we are talking about more than our legs. We are talking about our eyes and our ears and our hands, yes, we are talking about everything that makes up our lives. We are to live our lives so that they please God in everything that we do. We are to use our legs to carry us to the places that please God. We are to use our eyes to see the things that please God. We are to use our ears to hear the words and music that please God. When we are walking worthy of God, everything that we do must please Him. Why should you try so hard to please God? Well, if you are a Christian, you have been called to live in His kingdom and enjoy all the glorious things that He has made. This is a privilege that should make you very thankful and cause you to want to live a life that pleases Him.

**SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word.** Today’s Bible story is about a lame man that was healed and was able to walk for the first time in his life. Let us find out what he was doing and how he got healed.

#### I. Lame Man Was Healed in His Legs - Acts 3:1-11

- A. Peter and John went to the temple to pray about 3:00 P.M. (3:1)

**WE:** We need to pray. It is one of the best ways to “walk worthy of God.”

- B. The lame man at the Beautiful Gate asked for alms of those going to the temple (3:2). He did not know of any better way to live than to beg for money.

- C. The lame man asked alms from Peter and John (3:3).

**WE:** If we are walking worthy of God, we will try to help those who really need it.

- D. Peter and John gave the lame man something better than alms (3:4-7). Peter and John were going to heal the man by God’s power. That was better than money.

**WE:** When we give someone the Gospel who is unsaved, that is better than money. That is a gift that will last forever; money will last for a day or two. We should not forget to give people the gift of salvation.

1. Peter got the lame man’s attention before he gave him God’s gift of healing (3:4-5).

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**WE:** Before we give someone the Gospel we need to ask one or two questions to get his attention. (Two questions: Do you want to go to Heaven after you die? Jesus said there is only one way to get to Heaven; do you know what that is? [John 14:6: 1 John 5:11-13]).

2. Peter told the man he had no money to give to him (3:6).

**WE:** We may be like Peter and have no money, but we can give them a tract and explain it to them. We should always carry one or more tracts in our pocket, so we can be ready to witness.

3. Peter promised to give what he had.

a. Peter offered to heal the lame man's legs by the power of Jesus Christ. All he needed to do was rise up and walk (3:6). This required faith of Peter and of the lame man

b. Peter encouraged the lame man to have faith in Jesus by lifting him up (3:7). It is also true that those who need salvation need a strong Christian, who is walking with God, to help them believe and obey God.

**WE:** We need faith in Jesus Christ to receive His power before we can do work for Him. Then our faith in Jesus Christ can help others have faith in Him.

E. The lame man received God's gift and was thrilled (3:7-8). God's gifts are always thrilling to receive. When someone receives Christ as his Savior, it is far more thrilling than receiving a little money.

1. He was healed immediately (3:7). Healing is not always given immediately and sometimes it is not given at all, but God's gifts of salvation and forgiveness are always given right away.

2. He showed he was healed by leaping, walking, standing and praising God. He had never walked before, but now he was walking and leaping. Best of all, he was praising God. This is evidence that the lame man was healed in his soul (saved from his sin) as well as in his legs when Peter and John helped him. Then he went into the temple with Peter and John (3:8).

**WE:** When we give the Gospel to a lost sinner and he receives it, it is better than healing a lame man. But if a person receives Christ as Savior and is healed, that is a double blessing. Helping others is part of what it means to "walk worthy of God."

F. Others noticed that something happened to the lame man (3:9-11).

**WE:** When we "walk worthy of God" as we should, others will notice it and they will discover what great things God can do. Our "walk" will cause some people to want God to save them.

## II. Others Were Healed in Their Souls - 3:12 – 4:4

A. Peter preached Jesus Christ to those who came to find out what happened to the lame man (3:12ff). Christians who walk with God take every opportunity to preach Jesus Christ to those who are unsaved and need to be healed in their souls.

**WE:** We need to ask God to make us aware of the opportunities to tell others about salvation from their sins through Jesus Christ. If we truly want to serve Jesus Christ better, He will help us as we witness.

B. Sinners were told to repent of their sin and be converted – be healed in their souls and have a new life in Christ (3:19). A sinner cannot be healed by Jesus Christ until he is **willing** to repent. That means he must turn away from his sin. It is true that a sinner has no power in himself to turn from his sin, but he must be **willing** to have the Lord give him this power and help him turn away from his sin. Then the Lord will do it and will heal his soul. When that happens, he will want to walk with God.

**WE:** We need to come to that place in our spiritual life where we want to walk with God by repenting of our sins.

C. Evil leaders hated the message of Jesus Christ and tried to stop it by putting Peter and John in prison (4:1-3). People who walk with God will suffer persecution from evil men, but they do not have to be afraid because God will never leave them (Hebrews 13:5-6).

**WE:** We must be willing to walk with God, even when wicked people hate us. Are you willing to walk with God when people hate you?

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D. About 5,000 people believed the message about Jesus Christ (4:4). Christians who walk with God will find that He walks with them and gives them great power.

**WE:** We can have God's power in our lives and see great things happen when we walk with Him.

**BE (for Action):** God wants you to walk with Him. That means He wants you to listen to Him, talk to Him, trust Him and obey Him. Do you believe God is here in this room right now? Remember, He is with you all of the time if you are a Christian because He is in you. Do you want to walk with God?

If you want to walk with God and you are not a Christian, the first thing you must do is to repent of your sins and ask Jesus Christ to save you. (Give an invitation for them to raise their hands so you can pray for them and help them after class.)