

Parish of Ferndown
Study sheet for week commencing 1st June 2008
Together in the Healing Ministry - Acts 3: 1-10

- 1) Peter and John went to the Temple at the time of prayer. Although they had become followers of Jesus they continued to observe their afternoon prayers which took place shortly after the evening sacrifice. How important is it for us to be regular attendees at church?
- 2) What are our experiences of healing either for ourselves or others? Is it always as dramatic as the healing of the beggar?
- 3) What is striking about this healing?
- 4) Why are some healed and others not? Is it lack of faith? Is it sin?
- 5) How do hospitals and other services fit in with the Christian ministry of healing? We hear of sudden death in hospital, do we hear of sudden recoveries in hospital? (Luke was a doctor and interested in the beggar's complaint; he carefully investigated everything – Luke 1:3)
- 6) What makes the name of Jesus so powerful?
- 7) Think of the commitment of the beggar's friends. Every day they brought him to the Temple. We don't know how long they had been doing this. Is commitment a gift?
- 8) Is it right to think long and hard before taking on a commitment or should we be moved by compassion, the emotion of the moment and act immediately on our feelings?
- 9) Presumably the passers-by had merely thrown a coin into the beggar's bowl, no smile, no recognition, he was always there. How do we react when we see people selling flags of "Big Issue"?

Humanly speaking, the man's case was hopeless. His healing was instantaneous, a miracle.

John Stott writes, "Take Scriptures as our guide, avoid opposite extremes. Neither describe miracles as 'never happening' nor 'everyday', neither 'impossible' nor 'normal'".

Prayer

Thank God for His miracles of Grace and His miracles of Healing

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