

What the Spirit Thinks of Gates

May 31, 2009

Acts 3:1-16

What it Takes to Minister to Those at our Gate:

¹One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. ²Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts.

⁴Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!”

1. We must look long enough to see their need.

⁶Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” ⁷Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up.

2. We must give ourselves to meeting that need.

¹⁷“Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. ¹⁹Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

3. We must care enough to address their *greatest* need.