



Leader's Guide

Week of March 19

Leader Check-In

Leaders,
About a month left before Easter. Be encouraged this week to spend as much time dealing with the hurts that your group members are experiencing. This can be a heavy topic for many who have faced loss and disappointment, so don't feel like you need to get to all the questions. I do encourage you, however, to make sure you leave a healthy amount of time for prayer at the end of your time together.

With Him,
Cameron Tate

The Big Idea

Jesus the healer can work miracles in response to our prayers, despite us living in a broken age where not all our prayers will be answered with healing. Regardless, we can hope and pray for a time of full healing to come soon!

Getting Started

1. What sicknesses/illnesses have especially affected (or are affecting) you or those close to you?
 2. Why is there illness in the world?
***Leader's Note:** Jeff identified three causes in his sermon 1) general sin (i.e. we live in a fallen world), 2) personal sin (e.g. the effects of reckless behavior), and 3) demonic forces.
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Digging In

1. Read **Acts 3:1-3**. What would your reaction be if you were in the shoes (sandals) of Peter and John?
***Leader's Note:** The full honest answer here is

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probably not something that we would say out loud.

2. Read **Acts 3:4-7**. What do Peter and John do for him?
3. Read **Acts 3:8-10**. What was the beggar's response? Who else was effected by this healing?
***Leader's Note:** It's important to note that the beggar did not praise humans (Peter/John) but God. He went straight into the temple to worship God and his response prompted change in others as well!
4. Why does God heal in the Bible?
***Leader's Note:** Many reasons: 1) to show compassion, 2) to validate his servants/authority, 3) to reveal the Kingdom of God, 4) for evangelism, and 5) to motivate worship.
5. Why doesn't God heal more often?
***Leader's Note:** The short answer is: we don't know. But when we look at the Bible we see that God healed with specific purposes (above) and often let some suffer for other purposes. This is why it's important to remember the here/not here, now/not yet nature of God's Kingdom. Spend some time talking about this important theological truth: *through Christ miraculous healing can*

happen today, but full healing will not happen until the Kingdom comes in fullness.

Looking Around

1. Have you ever prayed for healing? What was your experience?
 2. What is the right response when people are not healed after prayer?
 3. Who needs prayer in your life (yourself)? How can you show Jesus' compassion to them?
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Pray

Pray for those in your group who have healing needs. Expect God to work *and* recognize that if he doesn't heal, it's not necessarily because of a lack of faith. Trust that he is mighty and able to show his compassion and power *and* fill yourself with hope and expectation of the day when all his children will be healed.