

"As they approached the Temple, a man lame from birth was being carried in. Each day he was put beside the Temple gate, the one called the Beautiful Gate, so he could beg from the people going into the Temple." Acts 3:2 (NLT=New Living Translation)

1. We miss opportunities to share Jesus all the time. A follower of Jesus has to be _____ to share their Jesus story.

- a. Be aware of the _____ of the people around us.
- b. Be awake to the _____ of the situation.
- c. Be _____ to give an account.

"...And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. ¹⁶But do this in a gentle and respectful way..." 1 Peter 3:15-16 (NLT)

2. _____ and say something.

- a. Fill up your lungs with the breath of the Holy Spirit and speak truth.

"Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of our people, ⁹are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed?" Acts 4:8-9 (NLT)

- b. Instead of offering excuses, _____ with Jesus.

"The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus." Acts 4:13 (NLT)

3. Pray for _____ as well as safety.

"And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word." Acts 4:29 (NLT)

Discussion Questions:

1. What is the most intimidating thing about sharing your faith with someone? Have you ever had a situation where someone was offended by what you said? Have you ever had a positive experience?
2. What is the biggest reason that people miss opportunities for sharing the hope of Jesus?
3. Why is it important to understand the climate and the context of the conversation you are in when speaking up about Jesus?
4. Discuss this idea; "People can argue with your facts, but they can't argue with your experience." Do you think this statement is true or false? Do you feel like you can put voice to your experience with Jesus? Can facts about Jesus help people to make a decision to follow him? Why or why not?
5. Is there someone in your life that needs to hear your experience with Jesus? Pray in your group about this process and for this person.