

# **Keys To Ministry (& Mothering)**

“Living Large”, part 4, Insights from Acts 3:1 - 4:31

Pastor Bob Johnson, May 14th, 2023

## **God Empowers Those Who Are ...**

### **1. Willing to ...**

(Acts 3:1, Acts 2:46)

- **More ministry happens ...**

### **2. Willing to ...**

(Acts 3:2-5, Mark 10:1, 17, 32, 46)

- **More ministry happens ...**
- **More ministry happens ...**

### **3. Willing to share ...**

(Acts 3:6-8)

- **More ministry happens ...**

### **4. Willing to deflect ...**

(Acts 3:11-16, 19-20, Acts 4:10-12)

- **More ministry happens ...**

### **5. Willing to experience ...**

(Acts 4:18-20, John 15:18-19; 16:33, Acts 4:29-31)

- **More ministry happens ...**

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## **This Week's Discussion Guide**

Welcome to our fourth week of our 10 week study and discussion based on our current Sunday series at GPC called, "Living Large". In this series, we are slowly unpacking the Book of Acts. Each week we will read and reflect on a passage and discuss ways we can apply what we reflect on to our daily lives. Our last week in this small group season (before a summer break) will be the week of Sunday, June 25th.

It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships as part of our vision at GPC to raise up committed Christ followers in a healthy church community.

### **Getting Started:**

Each week, we typically start out with a few lighter questions to get us warmed up :).

Last Sunday, we were encouraged to maintain healthy habits.  
Speaking of habits, what is a healthy habit you are fairly consistent at that?  
What is a habit you would like to be more consistent at?

Something else we were encouraged to work on is being 'interruptible'.  
As we are encouraged to see ministry opportunities when our schedules get jostled, we can appreciate others who take the time to be interrupted by us.

Can you think of anyone who has given you their time in a way that you are grateful for?

The following are the the ministry insights that were mentioned as we studied Acts 3 and 4.  
Let's summarize what was meant by the six statements below and share which one or two we find more challenging.

- More ministry happens ... "when moving."
- More ministry happens ... "along the way."
- More ministry happens ... "with margin".
- More ministry happens ... "to individuals."
- More ministry happens ... "when sin is included."
- More ministry happens ... "with prayer."

### **Reviewing and Reflecting on last Sunday's Passage:**

Let's read the passage from last Sunday. (Acts 3:1 - 4:31)

After reading these chapters and looking back on our notes from Sunday, was there a particular thought, verse or comment that caught your attention, encouraged you, challenged you or raised a question for you?

## Digging Deeper:

1. In Acts 3:19-20, Peter called those who were listening to his message to repent and turn back to God. True Biblical repentance is not only a call to stop sinning by changing our behavior, but a call to turn toward God. One of the best illustrations of repentance is the story of Zacchaeus, the tax collector. Let's read Luke 19:1-10 and share what stands out to us.

When we repent in our relationship with God, it often leads to changes in how we interact with others. What do you think it would have been like for Zacchaeus to approach those he wronged to ask forgiveness and pay back those he cheated?

2. In Mark 5, Jesus gives us a good example of valuing people's needs above our pre-planned schedules. Let's read this chapter and share some insights with each other.

What interruptions did Jesus experience?

Can you think of any legitimate reasons others in the story could have given for why Jesus shouldn't have stopped for the interruptions?

How might Jesus' response to the interruptions in the story help us do a better job of responding to people in need today?

What are some of the reasons, excuses, justifications ... we tend to give for not having enough time for people?

3. Last Sunday we were reminded that as followers of Christ, not everything we experience in this world is going to go well. In fact, as Jesus followers, we are going to face opposition in many forms. However, everything we do and experience can be to the glory of God.

How do the following passages give us encouragement and hope in our trials?

James 1:2-4

John 16:33

Matthew 5:10-12

Luke 6:22-23

What is one way we can continue to glorify God when things don't go the way we think they should?

## Wrapping Up:

What is an application from what we read or discussed together that you would like to practice in the coming days? Is there anything that came up from this week's sermon or discussion that you would like prayer for? Is there anything else that you would like to express prayer for?