

# Cripple Cured; Crowd Taught about Christ

## Acts 3



New Testament 7  
Part 1: ABCs of Acts 1-6

## SUNDAY MORNING

New Testament 7 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

### SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Acts 3

### MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6b).

OLDER CHILDREN: "Then Peter said, 'Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk'" (Acts 3:6).

Also help the children memorize the ABCs of Acts.

### SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- ["Healing the Lame Man"](#)
- ["Oh, We Must Be Kind"](#)
- ["Take Your Stand"](#)

### LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [ABCs of Acts 1-12](#) Bible fact cards (provided under "N.T. 7 Bible Facts")
- "Acts Chapter Summary" from "[Kids Prep 2](#)" CD by Jeff Miller
- "Summary of the Bible" from "[Kids Prep](#)" CD by Jeff Miller
- Pictures/drawings from any books listed under 3rd-4th Grader Pre-Class Activities/Learning Centers
- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- John the Baptist/Peter A Beka Flash-A-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, not the lesson book)
- Let children role play the story
- Ask a man from your congregation to dress up as a "crippled man" to tell the story



from the point of view of the crippled man.

- Beautiful Gate (<http://store.bibleclassworkshop.com/shopexd.asp?id=308>)
- “Gate Called Beautiful” (pp. 21-22) from *Creative Bible Teaching: Volume 2*, by Sarah Richey
- Songs from “Sing a Story” Volume III (Book of Acts Stories Sung to Familiar Tunes), by Jewel Kendrick

### PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I must remember to be kind to those who have any kind of physical problem, treating them as I would want to be treated if I had the same problem.

## LESSON STARTS HERE

### INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)

Review last week’s lesson. When did the Church begin? Whose sermon on the Day of Pentecost is recorded? How many were baptized that day?

Have you ever seen someone who couldn’t walk, see, or talk? What do you think it would be like if you had something wrong like that? There are many people in the world that can’t see, walk, hear, etc. We always need to make sure we are kind to them. In today’s story, Peter and John met a man that couldn’t walk. Let’s see how they treated him and what wonderful thing they did for him!

### INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)


Review last week’s lesson.

What do you think it would be like not to be able to walk? What are things you would not be able to do if you couldn’t walk? In New Testament times anyone who was disabled in any way had no chance at a good life. All they could do was beg and depend on others for everything. It was a very hard life. In our lesson today, we will learn how two of the apostles helped a man who could not walk.

### POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review the ABCs of Acts thus far: “A” is for the **ascension** of Jesus. “B” is for **beginning** of the Church and **baptism** of 3,000. “C” is for **cripple cured** and **crowd** taught about Jesus.
2. During the early days of the Church, Christians often met near the Temple in Jerusalem to worship and be together. This was also a good place to attract attention to what they were teaching about Jesus. One day Peter and John went to the Temple about 3:00 in the afternoon (one of the specified times of prayer for Jews). [“The ninth hour,” according to Jewish time, would have been 3:00 p.m. because time was counted from 6:00 a.m.—considered to be the first hour of the day time.]
3. At one of the gates to the Temple lay a crippled man who spent his days begging from everyone who came by. He had been unable to walk his entire life; he was over 40 years old (Acts 4:22). [Remind the children that there was no special treatment available (medical or otherwise) for people born with disabilities or handicaps. They were not allowed to attend school and received

little or no training in trades.] The crippled man had friends or family who carried him every day to the Temple gate to do the only thing he knew how to do: beg. It was a very sad life.



**HISTORICAL NOTE:** The “gate called Beautiful,” where this crippled man and others begged, was the entrance to the Court of the Women in the Temple that Herod the Great built. Scholars believe that this gate was in the eastern wall of the Temple and was covered in gold so that it shone brightly when the Sun rose every morning. Herod built the Temple to soften the Jewish attitudes toward himself and the Romans. Herod’s Temple was begun in 20-19 B.C. and was not completed until A.D. 64—only six years before it was completely destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70.

4. When the crippled man asked Peter and John for “alms” (a donation, a gift of money), the two apostles did not ignore him or look **over** him as many other people did. Peter “fixed his eyes” on him (looked at the man intently). Just as Jesus **touched** lepers and other people who were considered “unclean,” Peter **looked** into the eyes of a man considered to be “just a beggar.” Peter and John had been poor fishermen. They had left everything to follow Jesus and had no money (no silver or gold) to give the crippled man. But they could give him something much more valuable than money. They could help him walk, just as Jesus had helped people walk while He was on the Earth.
5. Peter promised the poor man a great gift, and taking his hand, lifted him to his feet. Peter helped the man stand up for the first time in his life! This was the first miracle performed by an apostle in the book of Acts after Pentecost. Like all other miracles, this one was done to demonstrate the power of God and to prove that the message of the apostles was from God. This miracle was not done to make Peter and John famous; but it did attract a lot of attention to them very quickly.
6. The man who was healed went into the Temple. This would have been the first time in his life that he was able to enter the Temple, because crippled people were not allowed there; they were considered not “whole” or “without blemish.” [As appropriate, discuss what it would be like if handicapped people were not allowed in our church buildings.]
7. How did others react to the man who was no longer crippled? Many in the Temple recognized him because they were accustomed to seeing him every day begging. They were “filled with wonder” and “amazed” (3:10). A large crowd gathered around Peter and John at Solomon’s Porch, a covered walkway on the eastern side of the Temple. There may have been people in the crowd who had heard Peter preach the first Gospel sermon on Pentecost. Surely there were many who knew about the growing number of Christians in Jerusalem.
8. Peter tried to make sure the people did not try to give John and him credit for the miracle. He emphasized that only God—Whom the Jews claimed to love and obey—could do such a great thing. He reminded them that the same God was the heavenly Father of the man Jesus, whom the Jews had insisted Pilate crucify (“whom **you** delivered up and denied”—verse 13). He accused the crowd of murder, saying he was an eyewitness to their crime. He said they acted in ignorance (without a complete understanding) because they did not listen to Jesus or recognize that He was the fulfillment of all the Old Testament prophecies. He told them that Jesus had been raised from the dead and was with God—until the time of judgment. Peter told them they must repent; they needed to turn from their “wicked ways” (verse 26) to be pleasing to God.
9. Peter wanted many people to change their lives and follow Jesus, but think how the crippled man was changed because he could walk! Peter took the time to talk to the crippled man and to help him. [Discuss with the children what it would be like if we were suddenly crippled, deaf, blind, etc. Do we

take for granted our physical abilities? How do we treat people who are disabled or different in any way? Are we any more important to God than someone who can't see or walk or talk, etc?]

## PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer Key](#).

### Ages 2-5:

- [“Cripple Cured Coloring Sheet”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Continue working on ABCs of Acts booklet. ([“ABCs of Acts Booklet”](#) page 3 provided in activity sheets)
- Play “Peter Says” (like “Simon Says”), encouraging the children to use their physical abilities and be thankful for them.
- Write review questions over this and previous lessons on small cards; put individual cards under plastic bowling pins. Line the pins up in straight line. Let the children take turns knocking down the pins with a tennis ball or foam ball, and then answering the questions under the pins they knock over. ([“Bowling Pin Review Questions”](#) provided in activity sheets)

### 1st-2nd Graders:

- Continue working on ABCs of Acts booklet. ([“ABCs of Acts Booklet”](#) page 3 provided in activity sheets)
- [“Cripple Cured Word Search”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Write review questions over this and previous lessons on small cards; put individual cards under plastic bowling pins. Line the pins up in straight line. Let the children take turns knocking down the pins with a tennis ball or foam ball, and then answering the questions under the pins they knock over. ([“Bowling Pin Review Questions”](#) provided in activity sheets)

### 3rd-4th Graders:

- Continue working on ABCs of Acts booklet. ([“ABCs of Acts Booklet”](#) page 3 provided in activity sheets)
- [“Cripple Cured Word Search”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Play “Hang Man” with clues from this and previous lessons.
- Have the children read Acts 3.

## SONGS:

### “HEALING THE LAME MAN” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Lora Laycook  
(Tune: “Bring Them In”)

The lame man at the gate did lay,  
When Peter and John came that way.  
He asked for alms as they passed by,  
But Peter, unto him did cry,

CHORUS:

“Silver and gold, have I none,  
Such as I have, I give to you;  
Arise and walk; arise and walk!”  
He arose and praised Jehovah.

**“OH, WE MUST BE KIND”** ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Lora Laycook

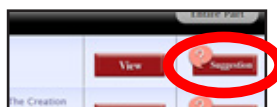
(Tune: Chorus of “Blessed Be the Name”)

O we must be kind, O we must be kind,  
O we must be kind, kind to all;  
O we must be kind, O we must be kind,  
O we must be kind, kind to all.

**“TAKE YOUR STAND”**

(from “To Know God in Song” CD, BibleClassWorkshop.com)

\*\*\* IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE  
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## Acts 3



New Testament 7  
Part 1: ABCs of Acts 1-6

## WEDNESDAY EVENING

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Also help the children memorize the ABCs of Acts.

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### PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I must remember to be kind to those who have any kind of physical problem, treating them as I would want to be treated if I had the same problem.

### INTRODUCTION:

Review [N.T. 7 Bible Fact Flash Cards](#) (provided under “N.T. 7 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)

### POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson. (See [N.T. 7 Review Questions](#) for example questions.)
2. With the OLDER CHILDREN, read other passages about some of the people who were in some way physically disabled but were healed by Jesus. Discuss more ways that we can be willing and able to help, be more alert, and be more respectful (learning not to stare, etc.).

### PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- See Sunday morning’s lesson.

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