



unexpected

THE DIVINE \rightleftarrows IN BETWEEN

ACTS 9:32-43

when you're moved outside your comfort zone

I. Outside our comfort zone we will encounter people who have been _____.

Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, bedridden for eight years, who was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed." And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. vv. 32-35

offer the _____ of Jesus, who can help us get back on our feet.

II. Outside our comfort zone we will encounter people who are _____.

Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then, calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. vv. 36-42

offer a _____ to Jesus, who can do more than we can imagine.

III. Outside our comfort zone we will encounter people who have been _____.

And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a tanner. v. 43

offer the _____ of Jesus, who always had time for an individual.



It's where people _____ Him most.

It's where you _____ on Him most.

It's where you'll see _____ at His best.

SERMON DEVOTIONAL STUDY

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. Read Acts 9:32-43. In what ways does this passage show that Peter was carrying out the command Jesus gave him to "feed my sheep" (John 21:15-19)?

2. How was Peter making sure that the credit for these miracles went to Jesus, and that Jesus was the hero of the story, not Peter?

3. Why is it significant that Peter stayed in the home of a tanner? What does this tell you about the character of God and His agenda?

4. God often uses what seem at first to be incidental occurrences to open up great ministries. How has Luke illustrated this divine method here as he wrote Acts?

5. How has God been moving you out of your comfort zone? What encouragement did this sermon provide for you in that regard?

6. Who in your own life do you know to be sidelined, desperate or avoided? How has this sermon helped you be ready to minister individually to them?

"SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION occurs every day as people put their faith in Christ and are brought from death to life. However, the kinds of miracles, signs and wonders evident in the early church do not occur. In first century Christianity, their purpose was to reveal God's will and establish the foundation of the church. God can do whatever He chooses and if He decides to do a miracle today, His will be done. However, the Bible is now complete and readily accessible—something first century believers did not have. They preached the Word verbally, and signs and wonders followed as confirmation. Disciples of Christ must instead commit to study His Word where God will reveal truth, as opposed to looking for signs and wonders to convert the lost."

OSCAR MOSES

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
 2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
 3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
 4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
- "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:
"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

For more about having a personal relationship with Jesus visit www.ccbcfamily.org/nextsteps.

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

QUARTERLY DAY OF PRAYER Setting aside an hour on Monday, Aug. 7, we'll gather to pray together! Focusing on the richness of our salvation and reading through verses in Ephesians, this will be a special time. Be a part by coming to the Chapel from noon to 1 p.m. or follow along with a time of personal prayer with a prayer guide at www.ccbcfamily.org/qdop.

LUNCH WITH A MISSIONARY Ever wonder about our Global Missions Ministry? Join us today, July 16 for *Lunch With a Missionary!* Fellowship with one another and learn how to support the persecuted church around the world. We will be meeting in the Oak Room at 12:30 p.m. If you would like to learn more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/lunch.

RE|ENGAGE YOUR MARRIAGE re|engage offers hope to marriages by helping couples move toward oneness through stories of grace, teaching and small groups. Classes begin Sunday, Aug. 13! Register today by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/reengage.

KIDSCAMP TO GO Be a part of the largest outreach program of the year and take KidsCamp to your neighborhood! Equipped with all the supplies and teaching materials needed, you'll have everything to share the hope of Jesus and take the fun of KidsCamp to your community. Learn more about this REACH opportunity that the whole family can do together by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/togo.

BE, MAKE AND REACH WITH LIVE PRODUCTION If you have experience and interest in live production and camera operation, we'd love to chat with you about volunteering with our Production Team. Get the conversation started by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/production.

MANPOWER Hoping to create a space for widows to experience encouragement and practical support, Christ Chapel hosts one Saturday every month for our ManPower group to help with outdoor projects and home maintenance tasks. Learn more about being a part by emailing ManPower@christchapelbc.org.

ENCOURAGED & EQUIPPED Our Women's ministry has an incredible resource for you! Search for the *Encouraged & Equipped* podcast and hear stories from other CCBC women as they share about how the gospel has changed their lives and what that practically looks like in the everyday. From their wisdom to all the laughs, you'll want to join in on the conversation! Find it today on your favorite podcast platforms.

THERE'S A JOB FOR YOU From audio and students to communications, every role at Christ Chapel makes it possible for us to make much of Jesus! Start a conversation today by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/jobs to get started.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—text GIVE to 24253 to get started.