

GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.

1. Of all the miracles Jesus performed, do you have a favorite? Why?

2. Read the message text (1 John 1:5-10) and look at the message outline to remind you of the message.
 - a. What was memorable from the message? Share it with the group.

 - b. What question did the message raise in your mind? Discuss it as a group.

In Acts chapter 3, the Apostle Peter gets the privilege of performing a miracle. Then, a crowd gathered because of the miracle and Peter got another privilege: the opportunity to tell them about Jesus. We will divide this chapter into three parts and examine how the themes of these three parts are the component parts of faithful and effective Christian witnessing.

Show Christian Love—Acts 3:1-10

3. The lame man was there every day. Peter and John didn't even have what he was asking for anyway. Peter and John had plenty of reasons to simply walk by and not help this man. They didn't *have to* do anything. But they did.
 - a. What reasons do we have to avoid showing Christian love?
 - b. What can we do to get around those reasons and show love?

4. Do you ever feel a little jealous of people in the Bible who get to perform miracles? Take a look at Matthew 10:42. Does Christian love have to be dramatic to matter?

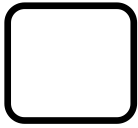
Give Bold Testimony—Acts 3:11-16

5. Focus especially on verses 13-15 and put yourself in Peter's shoes. How would you feel while you said these words? Why would you feel that way?

Apply Scripture's Promises—Acts 3:17-26

6. Work your way through verses 17-26.
 - a. How many references to God keeping his promises can you find?
 - b. How does Peter connect those promises to the people?

7. What makes each of these parts essential to Christian witnessing? What happens to Christian witnessing if one of the three is left out?



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points.

Resurrection Reality Live Your Life in God's Light I John 1:5-10 (Bible page 1228)

Introduction: S.A.D. (Seasonal Affective Disorder)

I. Let God's light shine in you (vv. 5-6, 8, 10).

- A. The difference between God and us is like d_____ and n_____.
- B. God's light therapy exposes the r_____ c_____ of our Spiritual Affective Disorder.
- C. We cannot c_____ to have fellowship with the light and yet walk in darkness.
- D. If we ignore God's Word and claim to be OK with him, we call him a l_____.

II. Let God's light shine on you (v. 9).

- A. When God's light shines on us, a c_____ takes place.
- B. God's light scatters the d_____ of sin.
- C. God's light p_____ us and makes us c_____ of the l_____.
- D. We need the light of God's Word to keep us from going spiritually b_____.

III. Let God's light shine through you (v. 7).

- A. Those who undergo light therapy for Seasonal Affective Disorder often experience a dramatic change in the q_____ of their l_____.
- B. Two published testimonials
- C. When God shines on the darkness of sin in us, we're given a n_____ l_____.
- D. Our faith and joy in the forgiveness of our sins become c_____ for others to see.

Conclusion: Live in the light of God's Son!

My Next Steps

Memorize Matthew 5:16 – *Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.*

Read I John 4:1-6 for next week's Good Shepherd sermon *The Risen Jesus Is the Perfect Shepherd.*

Commit to letting God's light shine in you by devoting 5-10 minutes daily to reading or listening to the Bible.

Practice "contagious Christianity" with those in your area of influence.