



By the Name & Power and for a Purpose of Jesus

Living in the Image of God
Module 05 Session 03

Banking Blessings Ministry
San Antonio, Texas
USA



Living in the Image of God

- God creates every person to represent him in interactions with others
- Be for others what God would be for them if he lived with us in human form
- He provides resources for people to perform the responsibilities
- He blesses those that do

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Living in the Image of God

- Program seeks to understand
- Meaning of *Living in the Image of God*
- Resources God has provided to guide us
- Human responsibilities
- Benefits of *Living in the Image of God*

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What We Will Learn

- Peter and John interactions with Sanhedrin
- Regarding healing of a lame man
- Compassion motivated by care
- Fulfills God's purpose
- Will be accomplished by his name and power
- Focus on what you can humanly do
- God will intervene as necessary
- When and how he chooses

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What We Will Learn cont'd

- Peter and John explained to Sanhedrin
- Human actions by name and power of Jesus
- Led to miracle
- And healing of lame man
- Compassion motivated by care of lame man
- Fulfills God's purpose
- Accomplished by his name and power
- Manifest through his miracle

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Peter and John Interactions with Sanhedrin

- Peter and John brought to Sanhedrin
- To explain healing a lame man
- "By what power or what name did you do this?"
- Peter explained: compassion shown to lame man is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth
- Acts 4:5-10

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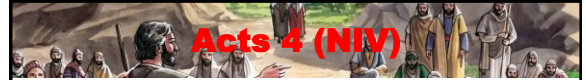


5 The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem.

6 Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family.

7 They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

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8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people!

9 If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed,

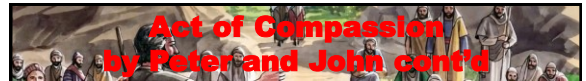
10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

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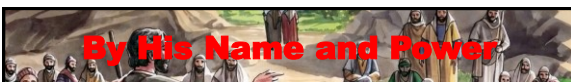
1. Peter and John recognized the man's need
2. Cared about the man
3. Committed to providing what they could to alleviate the need
4. Understood the man expected money
5. Understood they could not offer him money
6. Understood they could offer him healing in the name of Jesus

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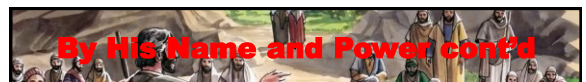
7. Explained to the man that what they could offer him differed from what he expected
8. Extended a helping hand and the man accepted knowing the hand was not an offer of money
9. Pulled the man up
10. Instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong and manifested his healing

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- Items 1–9: human effort by Peter and John
- Item 10: a miracle through items 1–9
- Peter explained items 1–10 were by the name and power of Jesus Christ of Nazareth
- Act of compassion by Peter and John
 - By the name and power of Jesus
 - For a purpose of Jesus

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- Every act of compassion motivated by care
- Fulfills God's purpose
- Will be accomplished by his name and power
- Will manifest through human effort and miracles
- Human actions by Peter and John
- Led to miracle
- Healed a man that was lame

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Recall Christ Teaching

- Christ interactions with disciples during two storms on the Sea of Galilee
- Understanding faith, prayer, and human effort
- 1st event: disciples panicked, prayed for miracle
- He released miracle to end their ordeal and scolded them for lack of faith
- 2nd event: disciples focused on work
- He encouraged them to keep working and released a miracle to end their ordeal

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Recall Christ Teaching cont'd

- If your task is motivated by seeking to fulfill God's purpose
- And target outcome is consistent with God's purpose
- And methods and approach are consistent with *Living in the Image of God*
- Then, your task belongs to God
- Focus on doing what you can humanly do

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Recall Christ Teaching cont'd

- God sees your struggles and difficulties
- He will intervene with miracle when and how he chooses
- He will guide you to victory

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What We Learned

- Peter and John interactions with Sanhedrin
- Regarding healing of a lame man
- Compassion motivated by care
- Fulfills God's purpose
- Will be accomplished by his name and power
- Focus on what you can humanly do
- God will intervene as necessary
- When and how he chooses

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What We Learned

- Peter and John explained to Sanhedrin
- Human actions by name and power of Jesus
- Led to miracle
- And healing of lame man
- Compassion motivated by care of lame man
- Fulfills God's purpose
- Accomplished by the name and power of Jesus Christ of Nazareth

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By the Name and Power and for a Purpose of Jesus

Living in the Image of God M05S03

In an interaction with the Sanhedrin (council of Jewish rulers, elders and teachers of the law), Peter and John explained their healing a lame man as an act of compassion motivated by care and accomplished by the name and power of Jesus. That is, human actions of Peter and John by faith of the name and power of Jesus led to a miracle that healed the lame man. Their explanation conveys a message: that an act of compassion motivated by care of the needy fulfills God's purpose and will be accomplished by the name and power of God. Therefore, in a call to compassion (when you are alerted to provide goods or service to benefit others in need), focus on doing what you can humanly do; because your task belongs to God and he will work through your human effort to accomplish his goal.

We discuss Peter-and-John explanation of their healing a lame man: to understand their message of compassion, that an act of compassion motivated by care of the needy fulfills God's purpose and will be accomplished by the name and power of God. Peter and John were brought to the Sanhedrin (council of Jewish rulers, elders and teachers of the law) to defend themselves for healing a lame man [Acts 4:7]: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

They explained that the healing was "an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame" [Acts 4:9] and accomplished "by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth" [Acts 4:10]. That is, human actions of Peter and John by faith of the name and power of Jesus led to a miracle that healed the lame man.

Their explanation to the Sanhedrin conveys a message that an act of compassion is a task of God and will be accomplished by the name and power of God, through a combination of human effort and miracles. Therefore, in a call to compassion, focus on doing what you can humanly do, because your task belongs to God and he will work through your human effort to accomplish his goal.

As we discuss previously under "**Managing Expectation in a Call to Compassion (M05S02)**," a call to compassion means that God alerts a person to the need of another and calls the person (the intended benefactor) to recognize the need and needy, care about the needy, commit to providing goods or service to alleviate the need, and persevere in seeking to do so. Peter and John recognized the lame man's need, cared about him, committed to doing what they could to alleviate his need, and persevered by faith of the name and power of God to accomplish the objective.

We discuss their interactions with the man as a series of step-by-step human actions that culminated in a miracle healing of the lame man.

Peter and John Interactions with the Sanhedrin

Peter and John were brought to the Sanhedrin to explain their healing a lame man. The Sanhedrin was a council of Jewish rulers, elders and teachers of the law [Acts 4:5–6]: "The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family."

The Sanhedrin asked Peter and John to explain by what power or what name they healed the man [Acts 4:7]: “By what power or what name did you do this?” Peter explained that what they did was an act of compassion for the lame man, and was accomplished by the name and power of Jesus Christ of Nazareth [Acts 4:9–10]: “If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.”

Compassion for Lame Man by Peter and John

Their explanation of the healing conveys a message regarding compassion. To understand the message, we describe Peter and John interactions with the lame man as a series of action steps.

1. Peter and John recognized the man’s need.
2. They cared about the man.
3. They committed to providing what they could to alleviate his need.
4. They understood the man expected money.
5. They also understood they could not offer him money.
6. They realized that they could offer him healing in the name of Jesus.
7. They explained to the man that what they could offer him differed from what he expected.
8. They extended a helping hand and the man accepted, knowing the hand was not an offer of money.
9. They pulled the man up.
10. Instantly, the man’s feet and ankles became strong and manifested his healing.

The actions in steps 1–9 represent human effort by Peter and John. The action in step 10 is a miracle that God performed as an outcome of their human effort. Peter explained that everything they did (i.e., all their human effort and the miracle), was done by the name and power of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. That is, human actions of Peter and John by faith of the name and power of Jesus led to a miracle that healed the lame man.

By the Name and Power of God

As we discuss previously under “**Managing Expectation in a Call to Compassion (M05S02)**,” an act of compassion begins with God alerting a person to the need of another. He calls the person (the intended benefactor) to recognize the need and needy, care about the needy, commit to providing goods or service to alleviate the need, and persevere in seeking to do so. Peter and John recognized the lame man’s need, cared about him, committed to doing what they could to alleviate his need, and persevered by faith of the name and power of God to accomplish the objective.

Their explanation to the Sanhedrin conveys a message that an act of compassion is a task of God and will be accomplished by the name and power of God, through a combination of human effort and miracles. Therefore, as the intended benefactor in a call to compassion, focus on doing what you can humanly do, because your task belongs to God and he will work through your human effort to accomplish his goal.

Faith, Human Effort, and Miracles

To understand Peter and John message of compassion based on their healing a lame man, recall Christ teaching based on his interactions with disciples during two storms on the Sea of Galilee [**Individual Responsibility Regarding Faith and Human Effort** (M04S09)]. In the first event, the disciples panicked and shifted their attention from human effort to pray for a miracle. Jesus released a miracle to end their ordeal and scolded them for lack of faith. In contrast, during the second event, the disciples focused on human effort. Jesus encouraged them to keep working and released a miracle to end their ordeal.

The interactions convey a message of human relationship with God regarding faith, prayer, and human effort. Your battle belongs to God if your task is motivated by seeking to fulfill God's purpose, your target outcome is consistent with his purpose, and your methods and approach are consistent with *Living in the Image of God*. Then, focus on doing what you can humanly do, because he will work through your effort to guide you to victory when and how he chooses.

Summary of What We Learned

In an interaction with the Sanhedrin (council of Jewish rulers, elders and teachers of the law), Peter and John explained their healing a lame man as an act of compassion motivated by care and accomplished by the name and power of Jesus. That is, human actions of Peter and John by faith of the name and power of Jesus led to a miracle that healed the lame man.

Their explanation conveys a message: that an act of compassion motivated by care of the needy fulfills God's purpose and will be accomplished by the name and power of God. Therefore, in a call to compassion (when you are alerted to provide goods or service to benefit others in need), focus on doing what you can humanly do; because your task belongs to God and he will work through your human effort to accomplish his goal.

Key Words: Compassion, Faith, Human Effort, John, Lame, Man, Miracle, Peter