



## A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month:	The Church's Mission
Text for the Week:	Acts 3:1-10
Message for the Week:	"Search and Rescue"
Theme for the Week:	Marks of disciples who embrace the mission of God

## Week 11

### Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

When was the last time you jumped for joy?

### Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

### Read:

Read [Acts 3:1-10](#) out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them those who are with you.

### Respond / Reflect:

If you put yourself in the place of the beggar, what would you write in your diary for a typical day in your life and for the day you met Peter and John?

Since the mission of the church is to make more and better disciples...

How are you/we promoting the mission of the church?

What needs to change to strengthen your/our connection to this mission?

Watch this clip: <https://vimeo.com/52020157> How do you identify with this video?

Can you share a story of how you were willing to be inconvenienced for others for the sake of the mission? As the sermon asked, "Are you willing to carry someone to Jesus?"

Is Covenant Church the kind of community you'd bring your unchurched (hurting, needful, hopeless) friend? If so, why? If not, what would need to change for this to happen?

## **"Try It!"**

Pray that God will tune your heart to be open and available and your eyes open to see opportunities and promptings of the Holy Spirit this week in conversations and encounters with others. Instead of feeling awkward and not doing anything, **step into it**. Take your cues from the children around you. Allow these children to help you see the opportunities in front of you.

## **Prayer:**

Spend time in prayer regarding the things God revealed and that you discerned in your time with God today.

Also, spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you...pray the following prayer for each other.

*"Lord,*

*We pray the characteristics of disciples of Jesus (prioritizing prayer, willing to walk into fire, engaging with "beggars," sharing Jesus Christ, constantly on a search and rescue mission for the Kingdom) will grow and be evident in us.*

*We pray for an outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.*

*We pray that the Spirit will reveal Christ to us. Come, Holy Spirit.*

*We pray that the Spirit will shape us in the character of Christ. Come, Holy Spirit.*

*We pray that the Spirit will equip us for the mission of Christ. Come, Holy Spirit.*

*In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, AMEN."*

## **Missional Practice for the Month:**

Use the prayer above each day to pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit for all those living on your block in your neighborhood, for those living in your condo or apartment building, and/or your co-workers. Sometime during the month, when prompted by the Spirit, get off your outreach couch, and break bread (eat or drink) with one or two of them (either in person or by Zoom) to get to know them better.