

Something Better Than Gold

Acts 3:1-4:31

THE SPIRIT USES PEOPLE WHO ARE:

▶ Focused on the **things of God.**

Acts 3:1 / Joshua 1:7-9 / John 14:23 / Exodus 19:5

*It is easier to steer a **moving** car, than a **parked** car.*

▶ Paying attention to the **needs of others.**

Acts 3:2-4 / Matthew 9:36-38 / John 4:34-35 / John 13:35

*Ministry is an **opportunity**, not a **destination**.*

▶ Willing to share what they **have.**

Acts 3:5-6 / James 2:15-17 / Matthew 25:37-40 / Acts 20:35

▶ Willing to give God the **credit.**

Acts 3:12 / Acts 4:13-14 / Mark 10:17-18 / 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 / Matthew 5:16

*A **changed life** is the best **proof** of God's work.*

THE RESULT ISN'T ALWAYS WHAT WE EXPECT:

Acts 4:1-13 / Ecclesiastes 5:1-3

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Acts 3:1-4:31

THE SPIRIT USES PEOPLE WHO ARE:

► **Focused on the _____.**

Acts 3:1 / Joshua 1:7-9 / John 14:23 / Exodus 19:5

It is easier to steer a _____ car, than a _____ car.

► **Paying attention to the _____.**

Acts 3:2-4 / Matthew 9:36-38 / John 4:34-35 / John 13:35

Ministry is an _____, not a _____.

► **Willing to share what they _____.**

Acts 3:5-6 / James 2:15-17 / Matthew 25:37-40 / Acts 20:35

► **Willing to give God the _____.**

Acts 3:12 / Acts 4:13-14 / Mark 10:17-18 / 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 / Matthew 5:16

A _____ is the best _____ of God's work.

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Food for Thought

For the week of August 24, 2008
(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Chris mentioned that ministry often happens in the interruptions of life. Jesus gave his followers clear instruction and a great example of what it looks like to be interruptible and to meet the needs of others. Read Mark 10:46-52 and Matthew 25:31-46 and then answer the following questions.

What helps you pay attention and take notice of the needs of others?

What can distract you from taking notice of these needs?

How could you become more interruptible to be used by God?

2. Jesus told a story about a Samaritan man whose offer to help someone in need was far more than a kind gesture. Read the story in Luke 10:25-37 and notice what getting involved cost this guy. Can you think of anyone in your life that may need some help from you? What's at risk for you to step in and offer to help? How can we follow the Samaritan's example and see our helping role through to the end?

3. Sometimes we get confused about what it takes or feel inadequate to make a difference in the world around us. What do the following verses reveal about what it really takes to make an impact and how it happens?

Matthew 5:16

Matthew 20:26

Ephesians 2:10

Ephesians 3:20

1 Timothy 6:17-18

Titus 3:8