

Acts 3:5

So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them.

When you think about getting into ministry, what is one thing that may drive or hinder some people? If we are honest, it's usually money. For some reason, money seems to be why some get out of, or decide not to get into ministry. They simply feel like they can't afford it or find that it may be too expensive. Usually because they have big dreams, and are not allowing the Lord to start them off simple and allow time for the ministry to take root and grow.

I know when I started this website with the bible study and devotionals. I started out teaching a home bible study, and started posting the teachings on a free Web service that was provided through AOL. After a while I looked into it and found out that I could get a web page for \$35 a year for the domain name, and \$10 a month for the provider. So basically for ten bucks a month I can teach the bible all over the world, strengthening the believers and reaching out to the lost. So honestly, money should never be an issue, because "Where God guides, God provides" (Pastor Chuck Smith) And with that small start of a home bible study and \$10 a month, God has grown it into several books of the bible being taught, verse by verse, as well as over 1,000 daily devotionals written, all still available free to all.

Also when some come to a church for help, sometimes they are looking for money as an answer to their problems. Take today's devotional verse for example. (I would encourage you to read it in Act 3:1-10.) But simply, there was a man who was lame from birth, sitting and asking for money. Kind of like we would see with homeless people, only this guy could not walk and get around. Also remember that this was 2000 years ago, so things were way different then, and that's how these people would survive, by what others gave them.

So, as was his daily routine, this lame man sat outside asking for spare change to get by. Then Peter and John walked up and seen this man asking for some money. Now Peter and John had no money, so what did they do? Yep they walked right past him ignoring him, because God did not provide, therefore He did not guide...

Actually that is 100% incorrect, because they knew that ministry and helping others has nothing to do with money. Instead:

† **Acts 3:6** *Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk."*

Peter did not allow money to get in the way of helping someone out. Also notice that God did provide, "**but what I do have I give you**". But it was not money that God provided, but a healing.

Think about it, if they would have given this guy a few bucks, he would had been right back out there the next day, maybe his stomach would be a little fuller, but in reality, he would had been no better off.

Now, there will be times when money is the answer for some needs, but I think that most needs do not require any money at all.

Simply, we need to stop looking at what the financial cost is and what we think needs to be done in ministry, or needed in order to minister to others, and see what God want's to do in the ministry and in the lives of others through us.

If they would had given this man a few bucks, he would had said "Thank you" to Peter and John and remained stuck there on the ground. But when he got ministered to God's way, the results were something he wasn't able to do, which was, *walking, leaping, and praising God*. Also **God** got the glory that way, instead of Peter and John who would had gotten the thanks, and not God.

† **Acts 3:7-8** *And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them--walking, leaping, and praising God.*