**A forest with trees and text

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**Day 1**

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| **Faith Fact**  I can take time for others.  **Faith Verse**  Proverbs 3:5–6 (NLT)  Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.  **Question of the Day: How can you take time for others?** |

**Read about It**

**Read:** Acts 3:1–6

Peter and John went to the temple one afternoon to pray, and it was probably much like any other afternoon. The man who was lame was carried in, just like he was each day. But, Peter and John were full of the Holy Spirit. Instead of rushing past the man to make it on time to the prayer service, they stopped when the man asked for money. We don’t know if they had seen this man before or not, but we do know that on this day, they were willing to stop and speak with him. They were willing to allow their schedule to be interrupted to do something that Jesus would have done.

Although they didn’t have money, they offered him what they did have: a miracle in the name of Jesus! You see, God isn’t always looking for the richest people or the most talented people to do His work. He wants to use people who are willing to be used by Him; people who are willing to interrupt their normal schedule to stop and care for someone who may be hurting.

**Talk about It**

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| **Question 1.** What did Peter and John do when the man who was lame asked for money?  **Answer 1.** They stopped and noticed him. (Acts 3:4) |
| **Question 2.** Why do you think Peter talked to the man?  **Answer 2.** To offer him healing (Acts 3:6) |
| **Question 3.** Why didn’t it matter that Peter and John didn’t have money to give the man?  **Answer 3.** They had something greater than money to offer. (Acts 3:6) |
| **Question 4.** Is God more interested in how you care for others or how much money or time you have? Why do you think that?  **Answer 4.** Answers may vary. |
| **Question 5.** How can you take time for others?  **Answer 5.** Answers may vary. |

**Pray about It**

Dear God, help me see the people around me who need Your love. I want to have the kind of heart that’s willing to have my schedule interrupted so I can take time for others. Amen.

**Day 2**

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| **Faith Fact**  I can take time for others.  **Faith Verse**  Proverbs 3:5–6 (NLT)  Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.  **Question of the Day: How can taking time for others affect more than just one person?** |

**Read about It**

**Read:** Acts 3:7–11

Have you ever skipped stones at a lake or a pond? One flick of the wrist can send a stone skipping several steps across the water. The stone creates lots of ripples that flow out from where it touched the water. That one stone can affect all the water around it, even without touching that part of the water. This is exactly what happened with Peter and John when they took the time to stop and speak with the man who was lame at the gate. The man was healed and the people around him witnessed the results of the miracle.

God wants to use us to change the world around us with His love. When we take the time to listen to His voice and follow His commands, we will not only affect the people we talk to, but also others as well. We will be part of the ripple effect of them sharing Jesus with people we may never actually talk to ourself.

**Talk about It**

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| **Question 1.** What happened to the man at the temple gate when Peter took his hand?  **Answer 1.** His legs were healed. (Acts 3:7) |
| **Question 2.** What did the man do after he was healed?  **Answer 2.** “He jumped up, stood on his feet, and began to walk! Then, walking, leaping and praising God, he went into the Temple with them.” (Acts 3:8) |
| **Question 3.** How did the people around the man feel when they saw that he had been healed?  **Answer 3.** “They were absolutely astounded!” (Acts 3:10) |
| **Question 4.** What might have happened if Peter and John hadn’t taken the time to stop and speak to the man?  **Answer 4.** Answers may vary. |
| **Question 5.** How can taking time for others affect more than just one person?  **Answer 5.** Answers may vary. |

**Pray about It**

Dear God, thank You for wanting to use me. Help me to share Your love with as many people around me as possible. Amen.

**Day 3**

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| **Faith Fact**  I can take time for others.  **Faith Verse:**  Proverbs 3:5–6 (NLT)  Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.  **Question of the Day: How does God use interruptions in our day to bring people to Him?** |

**Read about It**

**Read:** Isaiah 55:8–9

Imagine this. You’re home on a school night, and your homework and chores are finally done. Dinner is all cleaned up, and you’re getting ready to sit down and play your favorite game. In the other room, you hear your parent answer the phone and after a quick conversation they say, “Sure, we’ll be right there.” Your parent comes in to tell you that your neighbor’s dog has run off, and your neighbor needs help finding it. What do you do?

God is not surprised like we are when things like this happen. His plans for our day might be totally different from ours because His thoughts are higher than our thoughts. Sometimes an interruption in our day may be God’s way of lining up a perfect opportunity for us to reach out to others and show them that we care. Peter and John could have been frustrated when the man asked for help, because it was an interruption in their day, but they weren’t. That man needed someone to show him that they cared. When unexpected opportunities come up during our day, we can ask God to help us not get irritated and to help us see others the way that He does.

**Talk about It**

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| **Question 1.** Are God’s thoughts anything like our thoughts?  **Answer 1.** No, His thoughts are nothing like our thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8) |
| **Question 2.** If you were in the story above, what may have happened if you had helped your neighbor find their dog? What may have happened if you didn’t take the time to help?  **Answer 2.** Answers may vary. |
| **Question 3.** How could doing something small, like unexpectedly helping a neighbor, help lead someone to know about Jesus?  **Answer 3.** Answers may vary. |
| **Question 4.** Why should we trust God’s plans and the way He works?  **Answer 4.** His ways are far beyond anything we can imagine. (Isaiah 55:8) |
| **Question 5.** How does God use interruptions in our day to bring people to Him?  **Answer 5.** Answers may vary. |

**Pray about It**

Dear God, help me to have the right attitude when it comes to taking time for others. Help me to see people the way You see them. Amen.

**Day 4**

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| **Faith Fact**  I can take time for others.  **Faith Verse:**  Proverbs 3:5–6 (NLT)  Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.  **Question of the Day: Why should you be ready to take time for others?** |

**Read about It**

**Read:** Psalm 139:16–18

There are 60 minutes in an hour, 1,440 minutes in a day, 10,080 minutes in a week, and 525,600 minutes in a year. If you had to write down everything you’re going to do in the next year from minute to minute, what kinds of things would be on that list? The Bible says that every day of our life is recorded, and God knows what every moment of our life will look like. The things that may seem like interruptions to us are actually things that God knew were going to happen to us long ago.

When He places people in our path, He already knew, before we were even born, that our paths would cross with them because He knows them too. Following God means trusting that He knows best. Many of the people we come into contact with are there for a reason. Following God also means trusting Him with our time and being ready to jump into whatever God may bring our way. Just as with Peter, John, and the man who was lame, maybe that interruption will be the very thing that would help someone learn about Jesus.

**Talk about It**

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| **Question 1.** How long has God known us?  **Answer 1.** Since before we were even born (Psalm 139:16) |
| **Question 2.** How much of your future life does God already know about?  **Answer 2.** Every day and every moment (Psalm 139:16) |
| **Question 3.** How does it make you feel knowing that God knows what’s going to happen even before it happens?  **Answer 3.** Answers may vary |
| **Question 4.** When are times in your life that God may be trying to interrupt your plans to take time for others?  **Answer 4.** Answers may vary. |
| **Question 5.** Why should you be ready to take time for others?  **Answer 5.** Answers may vary. |

**Pray about It**

Dear God, I trust You with every minute of my day. Help me to always be ready and willing to take time for others. Amen.