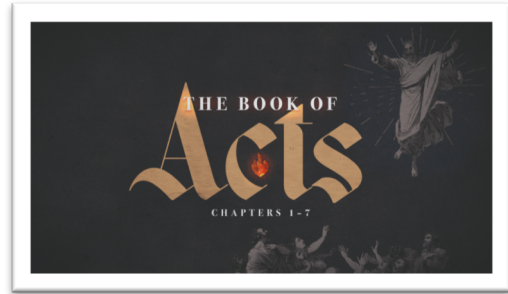


## TIMES OF REFRESHING

ACTS 3:11-26 // PASTOR TODD DUGARD  
NOVEMBER 17, 2019



*I will demonstrate my devotion to Christ by not ignoring his evident work (3:11), not denying the hard truth (3:12-16), not rejecting his generous offer (3:17-20), not disregarding his authoritative word (3:21-24), and not forgetting his long-standing promise (3:25-26).*

## GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How does devotion to Jesus look like in your life now compared to when you were younger?
- Devotion looks different depending on the stage of life you're in. With time, devotion can fade into cold duty without any fire in your heart. Consider the warning from Revelation 2:2-5. When it comes to your relationship with Christ today, how do these verses direct you?
- When Peter addressed the "Men of Israel" in Acts 3:12-15 he reminded them of the history of God's commitment to them and the awful way that they rejected his gift. He exposed their sin in light of God's faithfulness. What they did was wicked, rebellious, and unjustifiable because they knew God and his word. This was the hard truth they had to hear before they could properly respond to Jesus. Peter wasn't being "nice", he was being honest. When God uses someone to confront your awful sin with honest, pointed words, how do you plan to respond?
- As you confront people with the stark contrast between God's love and their sin they may be offended by what you say. Assuming devotion to Christ drives you to tell people about him, how do you prepare for some people to be upset with you because you have shared this message?
- Think of specific people whom you know that need to understand the gospel but may be

offended when their sin is exposed by God's word. What gracious message and activity will bring relief to their burdensome circumstances? What will help them desire a "time of refreshing" from the Lord?

- Peter exhorted the crowd to repent, and turn back so that times of refreshing may come from the Lord. Turning from sin is the key to being refreshed in Christ. How have you seen this counsel ringing true in your life recently?
- Look up James 1:22 and 4:17 to see the expectation that your faithful devotion is best expressed by obedience to Jesus' commands. Jesus directs you today through the Bible, so knowing his word is essential to personal spiritual devotion and growth. Do you think your interaction with God's word last week is an accurate gauge of your devotion to Christ? Why or why not?
- What good thing do you believe will come as a result of your life long devotion to Jesus Christ? (Consider specific promises from Scripture that you long to see fulfilled when Christ returns.)