



## Pastor's Ponderings

April 10, 2016



In the Gospel reading today we are taken back to the time when Jesus was teaching his disciples to do ministry. Their classroom was the on-site training of a mentor with his interns. They learned by watching the master. Then they are on their own and we need to take notice of their acts. What is up with the boys on the road today? The disciples had already gathered in Jerusalem and had been empowered by the Holy Spirit. They had also been threatened by the political powers in the temple that they are not to speak of this man Jesus. But, once one knows of the power of God's Spirit, there is no stopping them. How can we keep quiet about the great things God does for us? God was also opening their eyes to the needs of those around them. Peter and John are on their way to the temple for prayers. They see the beggar who has friends who drop him off so he can beg for alms...a few coins to help him survive. He is a cripple: no one can do anything about that. He does the best he can but there is no hope for a recovery for him... How often have we heard those words for ourselves or in stories of others? And yet, here are men, trained by Jesus, and they know that there is hope and there is healing.

So often we settle for less because it never occurs to us to ask God to heal us. Long ago and far away, when my babies were young, I wandered away into a grass roots Pentecostal church where we prayed for everything and it was not long before I started praying for my kids. "Mommy, the bee stung me. Let's pray." " Mommy, my tummy hurts. Let's pray"... and God answered the prayers. God does not always say yes to our prayers but God does answer. Looking back, I am so glad that God did not grant some of my prayer requests. Living in prayer we are more likely to see the power of God.

Pondering this, let us pray for all in need. Pastor Gail