

# Pivot

Week 1 – August 16

Scripture: Acts 3:1-16 and Psalm 71:15-18

*Grab your Bible and a few people to connect with. Look up the verses below and share your thoughts. It's that easy!*

**Share:** What is your favorite story from childhood? It could be a book you read or a story passed down through your family or other.

**Read Acts 3:1-16 and Psalm 71:15-18 together:** Take turns reading if you prefer. Enjoy the different Bible translations we each read.

**Discuss the following context:**

The book of Acts is a story about followers of Jesus who had to pivot in order to move forward. Until this point they followed and learned from Jesus; they were amazed by the miracles He performed and depended on physical proximity to Him. But then they could no longer follow Jesus the same way, they had to pivot. The book of Acts records what happened after Jesus physically left them.

Jesus believed that the power of His Spirit would help His disciples pivot and thrive in this new season. Being willing and able to pivot is so important. Although many of us want to go back to the way things were, God is calling us to walk with Him into a new season of life. We'll be stretched outside our comfort zones, but God promises to empower us to thrive like never before.

In Acts 3 Peter was heading to the temple to pray and came across a man who could not walk. When Peter helped the man to his feet, he didn't just walk, he jumped in the temple courts and praised God. **He told his story!** He acknowledged how something wrong was made right. The people were amazed. When they asked Peter about it, he said it wasn't from his own power; it was from his faith in Jesus. As followers of Jesus, it's important that we continually share how God works in our lives.

**Share your thoughts about the following questions:**

1. How can being honest about what we've been through, including God's redemptive and restorative work in our lives, help us to tell our story? Can you think of a story of your own that points to how God worked in your life?
2. What does keeping Jesus as the focal point in the midst of everything taking place in our culture do? Discuss the hope it provides and if this empowers us to face a new kind of future in a new kind of way.
3. Is God calling you to pivot in one area of your life? What could happen if you assume the best is yet to come?

**Pray together:** Ask each other to share what is on your heart today. Recognizing and telling our story magnifies God's work in our lives and for that we are thankful. Ask God to show you new ways to share your story.

**Question for Kids and Families:** God wants us to tell stories about how He loves us and helps us. When we tell these stories, people see that our God is loving and forgiving. How could you tell your story? (talking, writing, drawing pictures) Who could you tell your story to? (sister/brother, neighbor, friend, cousin)