

The New Normal | Acts 4:1-31,5:17-42 2021 Spring Toolkit #7

Announcement: The Encore Ministry is having a conference May 15th at Harrison Lane. Please communicate to your members who are retired or approaching retirement. Online registration is not required but preferred.

Facilitating Tip: Giving members and easy on and off ramps to groups is a Hallmark of our program. There is an additional email this week outlining some tips for ending the quarter well. Please see that additional email.

My Story Questions

These questions help the group know one another and transition to deeper discussion. Choose one.

- 1) If you have ever had to stand before a court of law, describe your feelings.
- 2) I Really Did. (Have everyone tell one fact about themselves that others would not know)

Study Questions

These are meant for personal preparation and group discussion. Use all or pick a few to discuss.

Read Acts 4:1-22 Who were the opponents to Peter's message? Why were they upset?

How did Jesus alter the crippled man's life? Peter's life? Your life?

What does vs 12 say about Jesus as the exclusive Savior. How is this message opposed today?

According to vs 13, What gave the men courage, though they were unschooled and ordinary? How does this also give you confidence?

Read 4:23-31 How did the believers' respond to the opposition they faced (4:24,5:21,5:41)?

Who can you pray for that may need confidence to keep obeying Jesus?

What scripture gave them perspective and comfort? To what scriptures do you turn during hardship or persecution(2 Cor 4:16-18)

What did the filling of the Spirit enable the believers to do (vs31) What has the filling of the Spirit enabled you to do?

Read 5:17-42 Which verse most challenges you? Why? Which verse most comforts you? How?

Responding to Jesus

These questions are meant for personal reflection before your group prayer time.

- 1) What areas are you trying to alter in my life? How can I cooperate with you?
- 2) What work do you have for me to do by the power of your Spirit?

Further Challenge

- 1) How does Peter's answer to the Sanhedren fulfill Jesus' words in Luke 21:12-15.

Sermon Notes / Mark Hoffman- May 15,16
Acts 4:1-31,5:17-42

Big Idea: the Gospel centered life is a confident life

- I) I have confidence that my life has been altered by Jesus.**
- II) I have confidence in the name and power of Jesus.**
- III) I have confidence that the Spirit is at work.**

Next Steps:

- 1) RE-read chapters 4&5, asking Jesus to build your confidence in Him.**
- 2) Where do I need to trade self confidence for confidence in Jesus.**
- 3) Engage in Living it out together**