

Bold and Powerful  
Week's reading: Acts 4:1-22  
Discussion Guide: August 13, 2023

**CHECK UP:**

Memory work: They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. -Acts 2:42

**OPEN:**

- Who did you B.L.E.S.S. this past week? What action steps did you take?
  - o How did you live bold and powerful this past week?
- What stood out to you from this past week's reading?
  - o What questions do you have?
- In what way did your devotions match the early church this past week (apostles teaching, breaking bread, fellowship, prayer)?

**READ and ASK: Acts 4:1-22**

- When it comes to being bold in your faith, how bold do you think you are?
  - o What is the most difficult situation you've faced because of your faith in Jesus?
- How do you think the apostles felt being on trial led by the same men (Annas and Caiaphas) that condemned Jesus?
- What empowered Peter to speak? (See *Luke 12:11-12*)
  - o What significance is it to you that Peter and John were noteworthy as unschooled ordinary men (they didn't have a Bible degree)?
- How do you respond to Acts 4:12?
- What made this situation a time to be faithful to God by practicing civil disobedience?
  - o What might be a time for us to be faithful by practicing civil disobedience?
- How can we prepare ourselves for the costs we may have to pay for following Jesus?
  - o What are some of the risks in telling others about Jesus?

- How do you think you might affect unbelievers around you by your Christian testimony?

**APPLY:**

- What encourages or challenges you most from this text?
- How can you be prepared to stand up for Christ when your beliefs are challenged?
- In what way could you strengthen your sense of courage about being a Christian in your place of work, neighborhood or family?
- NEXT STEP: In what specific way do you need the power of the Holy Spirit this week?

Memory Work:

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." -Acts 4:12

Next Week's Reading:

Acts 4:23-31