

Bold and Powerful
Week's reading: Acts 5:12-42
Discussion Guide: September 10, 2023

CHECK UP:

Memory work: All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. – Acts 4:32

How was your heart this past week?

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?

READ and ASK: Acts 5:17-42

- Why were the religious leaders opposed to the apostles?
- What did the angel tell the apostles to do? Why?
- What reason did the apostles give for their disobedience?
 - o What do you think you would do if you were in the apostle's shoes? Why do you think that?
 - o Trigger warning: For what things do you think Christians should stand for at all costs? (*What book chapter and verse can you point to say that? Consider why the apostles faced such opposition. What were they standing for?*)
- What reaction do you have to Gamaliel's statement?
 - o Historically, how is his statement true?
- What did the elder's do with the apostles and how did the apostles respond to it?
 - o How is it possible to have joy in the middle of such difficult circumstances?

APPLY:

- If you had to go through the sufferings of the apostles, how do you think you would cope?
- What should we copy from the character and example of the apostles?
 - o How can we become more like them? (Consider their source of boldness and power)

- How can we experience God more fully, so that you are set free to rejoice no matter what sufferings you experience?
- NEXT STEP: What do you want to remember the next time you are challenged or hurt for your faith in Jesus?

Memory Work:

The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah. – Acts 5:41-42

Next Week's Reading:

Acts 6:1-15