

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

A CROSSPOINT CITY  
SERMON SERIES

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### WK 10: Spirit Inspired Courage

#### SERIES OVERVIEW

The book of Acts tells the story of the gospel advancing from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth. As we walk through this missional narrative together, our prayer is that God would breathe fresh wind into our sails—motivating and inspiring us to join Him in the work He's still doing today.

[Book of Acts Video Overview](#)

#### CONTEXT

In Acts 4:13-22, Peter and John boldly defended their faith before the council, despite being uneducated, and refused to stop speaking about Jesus. The council, unable to deny the miraculous healing they performed, ultimately released them due to the public's praise of God.

#### THE BIG IDEA

When you've been with Jesus, you can't stay quiet. The Holy Spirit provides the courage needed to obey God over man.



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#### SCRIPTURE: Acts 4:13-22

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. 14 But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. 15 But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, 16 saying, "What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. 17 But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." 18 So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, 20 for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard." 21 And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. 22 For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

#### ICE BREAKER

The word astonished means "to marvel at." Share a movie or performance you have witnessed that just left you in your seat, astonished. What about it astonished you?

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### GROUP DISCUSSION

(Refer to **Week 10** of your ACTS Journal.)

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

Read Acts 4:13-22 as a group.

If you have not done the Ice Breaker on page 1, do it now. According to verse 13, what was the council astonished by?

How do you think Luke 12:11 impacts Peter and John's boldness referred to in verse 13?

What parts of this story give you the courage to be bold in your faith and share the Gospel?

Peter and John along with all the apostles were uneducated, common people yet the council was struck by their boldness and authority. How did "being with Jesus" impact their boldness, confidence & authority? How does it affect your boldness and courage?

What excuses and lies do you use when you know God is calling you to share his Truth? ("You have no idea what I've done", "I don't know enough", "I'm not like \_\_\_\_\_", "I didn't go to Bible college".) How does "being with Jesus" combat and silence our negative mindsets?

**Sermon quote:** "God doesn't use you because you're capable; he uses you because his Spirit is capable." Discuss the personal implications of believing this truth.

In your own words, what was the apostle's response to the demands from the council in verses 15-20? How would their response be different if they had not walked with Jesus?

**Discussion continued:** Pastor Jacob challenged us to live courageously. How is our culture today like the situation the apostles were in?

What is one thing you can do, with the Holy Spirit's help, to live courageously this week? Remember, it doesn't have to be a grand thing, but it is an intentional thing. Bring any fears into the light so that you can pray for each other.

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### PRAYER (In gender based groups)

\*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests.

### Closing Prayer (together as a group)

God, we are thankful that you choose us to proclaim your goodness and truth. We give you praise because our salvation is a modern day miracle that we can share with others. Holy Spirit, give us the power and courage to obey God over our flesh and people. God, may our courage to obey you bring you glory and may lives be changed for eternity. We pray in the power of your name Jesus, Amen.



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