

'Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.' Acts 4:18 NIV

3. Courageous faith _____ God completely.

'When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: 'Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.' Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.' Acts 4:24-31 NIV

'With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.' Acts 4:33 NIV

'All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.' Acts 4:32, 34-35 NIV

God raised _____ from the dead.

What will our _____ be?

'Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:1-3 NIV



SMALL GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION

1. What strikes you about the early church in Acts?
2. During the message, Pastor Phill said, "There was once a version of Christianity that was awe-inspiring." What would it take for Christianity to be awe-inspiring in our culture?
3. Read Acts 4:12. Does this verse offend or disturb you? Why or why not?
 - How might we explain this verse to someone who is seeking but doesn't yet accept the exclusivity of Jesus?
4. What are some things you fear?
 - How does that fear undermine your ability to follow Jesus?
5. Read Acts 4:24-33. During the message, Pastor Phill said, "We pray little prayers. Perhaps that's why so little happens." Respond to that statement. Do you agree? Why or why not?
6. In what areas of your life do you need to pray more boldly and with greater confidence in God?
 - What is one thing you can do this week to change the focus of your prayers? How can this group support you?
7. Read Hebrews 12:1-3. In what ways are we stewards of the faith for our generation, and how do we set the tone and the pace for the next generation?