

## Let's Go Boldly!

Message 2 of 5 in the series: "Let's Go!"

### A. God has important things for us to do in 2022.

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so **we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.**" Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

### B. God has always enabled His people do bold things.

"Mordecai sent this reply to Esther: 'Don't think for a moment that because you're in the palace you will escape when all other Jews are killed. If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?' Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: 'Go and gather together all the Jews of Susa and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will do the same. And then, though it is against the law, **I will go in to see the king. If I must die, I must die.**"

Esther 4:13-16 (NLT)

"The next day the council of all the rulers and elders and teachers of religious law met in Jerusalem... They brought in the two disciples and demanded, 'By what power, or in whose name, have you done this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers and elders of our people, are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead... There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.' **The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John,** for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus." Acts 4:5-13 (NLT)

"The wicked run away when no one is chasing them, but **the godly are as bold as lions.**" Proverbs 28:1 (NLT)

**Life Application:** We must pray that God will give us boldness in 2022.

"As soon as they were freed, Peter and John returned to the other believers and told them what the leading priests and elders had said. When they heard the report, all the believers lifted their voices together in prayer to God... O Lord, hear their threats, and **give us, your servants, great boldness** in preaching your word. Stretch out your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus. After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness." Acts 4:23-24, 29-31 (NLT)

### C. Let's go boldly into 2022 and accomplish the wonderful things that God has planned for us!

1. We can go boldly into 2022 because the Holy Spirit will guide us and show us what we need to do.

"There is so much more I want to tell you, **but you can't bear it now.** When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth." John 16:12-13a (NLT)

"Your own ears will hear him. Right behind you a voice will say, '**This is the way you should go,**' whether to the right or to the left." Isaiah 30:21 (NLT)

2. We can go boldly into 2022 because the Holy Spirit will give us power and help us overcome fear.

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of **power, love, and self-discipline.**"

2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT)

*Note:* The best way to tell if we are being led by the Holy Spirit or being tempted to fear is to ask ourselves, "Is fear keeping me from doing the right thing?" The Holy Spirit will never tempt us to sin. "Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it." James 4:17 (NLT)

3. We can go boldly into 2022 because God will always be with us no matter where we go and no matter what circumstances we face.

"...I have given you. And be sure of this: **I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**"

Matthew 28:20 (NLT)

“...I am convinced that **nothing can ever separate us from God's love**. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”  
Romans 8:38-39 (NLT)

4. We can go boldly into 2022 because Jesus understands how weak we are and helps us even when we blow it.

“So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. So **let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.**” Hebrews 4:14-16 (NLT)

5. We can go boldly into 2022 because God is for us.

“In my distress I prayed to the Lord, and the Lord answered me and set me free. **The Lord is for me**, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me? Yes, **the Lord is for me**; he will help me.”

Psalm 118:5-7a (NLT)

“If God is for us, **who can ever be against us?**” Romans 8:31b (NLT)

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### Connect Group Questions

1. Read Proverbs 28:1. Would you consider yourself to be a bold Christian? Why? Why not?
2. What does a bold Christian look like? Who is the boldest Christian you know?
3. Read Acts 4:23-31. How do you feel about praying for boldness in 2022? Share one situation/relationship/circumstance where you need boldness this year. Then spend some time as a group praying for each other asking for boldness.
4. Discuss the following 5 reasons we can go boldly into 2022:
  - We can go boldly into 2022 because the Holy Spirit will guide us and show us what we need to do. (John 16:12-13, Isaiah 30:21)
  - We can go boldly into 2022 because the Holy Spirit will give us power and help us overcome fear. (2 Timothy 1:7, James 4:17)
  - We can go boldly into 2022 because God will always be with us no matter where we go and no matter what circumstances we face. (Matthew 28:20, Romans 8:38-39)
  - We can go boldly into 2022 because Jesus understands how weak we are and helps us even when we blow it. (Hebrews 4:14-16)
  - We can go boldly into 2022 because God is for us. (Psalm 118:5-7, Romans 8:31)
5. React to the following quotations:

“If heaven were by merit, it would never be heaven to me, for if I were in it I should say, ‘I am sure I am here by mistake; I am sure this is not my place; I have no claim to it.’ But if it be of grace and not of works, then we may walk into heaven with boldness.” Charles Spurgeon

“There's a difference between knowing God and knowing about God. When you truly know God, you have energy to serve him, boldness to share him, and contentment in him.” J.I. Packer

“What the disciples wanted was not numbers but an essential quality that would keep them BEING the church God intended. Boldness can only be imparted by the Holy Spirit.” Jim Cynbala

“A minister, without boldness is like a smooth file, a knife without an edge, a sentinel that is afraid to let off his gun. If men will be bold in sin, ministers must be bold to reprove.” William Gurnall