

NEIGHBORHOOD LIGHTHOUSE LESSON

LESSON 4: THE CHURCH JESUS STARTED | ACTS 4 (Part 2 Vs. 23-37)



15 min | Fellowship & Food/ Snacks
0:10 – 15 min | Worship & Prayer
0:30 – 45 min | Connect Group Lesson & Discussion
(encourage attendees to make room for everyone to share)
Conclude with Personal Prayer & Ministry Time

SCRIPTURE READING

SERIES VERSE:

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

LESSON VERSE:

Have the group read Acts 4 (Part 2) Vs 23-37

Instead of retreating from threats, the early church prayed for boldness to continue to obey the Great Commission!

LESSON NOTES

...AND THEY WERE FILLED AGAIN

The miracle at the beautiful gate was the first largely public miracle performed in Jerusalem since the ministry of Christ. This miracle had all of Jerusalem stirred up because most people knew this man who had been healed!

When the early church was confronted by the religious leaders, they asked, “by what authority have you done this miracle?” They were not denying the miracle, but questioning the authority in which it was done. The Apostles replied, “we have done these things in the name of Jesus.”

After being threatened by the religious leaders to no longer speak the name of Jesus, rather than retreat, the church assembled together to pray. Once again, they were in “on accord.” Unity is a key factor in receiving not only the baptism of the Holy Spirit but divine direction for a church community.

Some of the same believers who were filled with the Holy Spirit in Acts 2, were “filled again” in Acts chapter 4.

GROUP QUESTIONS

1. How do you believe the modern church in America would respond to threats of death? How does this compare to the early church?
2. The early church not only prayed for boldness when threatened, but asked the Holy Spirit to “stretch out his hand to heal and perform signs and wonders...” Why was this part of their prayer?
3. The early church claimed no personal possessions! How and why was this possible?
4. What are some areas or threats in your life where you need Holy Spirit empowered boldness?

BEFORE CLOSING | Ask for **Prayer Requests** | Enter Weekly Attendance Report in **Planning Center!**

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