

“Lord, Make Us Bold!”

February 5, 2023

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved. When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together. “What are we going to do with these men?” they asked. “Everyone living in Jerusalem knows they have performed a notable sign, and we cannot deny it. But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn them to speak no longer to anyone in this name.” Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Acts 4:12-20

MAIN IDEA:

In Christ, we have **boldness**, courage, freedom, and confidence to follow God wherever He leads us.

1. Spend time with Jesus.

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. V. 13

a. Jesus is the difference.

He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach. Mark 3:14

b. Pray to be bold!

Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Ephesians 6:19

2. Dig deep in God’s Word.

They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. Luke 6:48

a. God’s Word is powerful.

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

b. God’s Word is eternal.

But the word of the Lord remains forever.” And that word is the Good News that was preached to you. 1 Peter 1:25

3. Use your gifts to serve one another.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

a. Be courageous with the gifts He gives.

God doesn't want us to be shy with his gifts, but bold and loving and sensible. 2 Timothy 1:7 MSG

b. Serving opens doors for the Gospel.

For a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries. 1 Corinthians 16:9

4. Speak the truth in love.

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

Ephesians 4:15

a. Pursue gentleness.

But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

1 Timothy 6:11

b. Rely on the Holy Spirit.

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. Romans 8:26

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