

THE WEEKLY WORD - 11/13/2019

Word: BOLDNESS

Passage: Acts 4

Key Verse: Acts 4:29-31

*“Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable Your servants to speak Your word with great **BOLDNESS**. Stretch out Your hand to heal and perform 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**.*

Commentary

Peter & John were headed to the temple to pray one day when God presented them with an opportunity to heal a man. So what did Peter do? He took advantage of the opportunity to show God’s power and he healed the man in the name of Jesus. The onlookers were amazed, but the religious leaders were beside themselves. They arrested Peter and John because they did not know what else to do with these men who were speaking in the name of Jesus – the man whom the people and religious leaders crucified. The next day they questioned Peter and John, but Peter began to speak **BOLDLY** because he was filled with the Holy Spirit. He made clear that salvation was found in no one else except Jesus Christ – the man they had crucified and was raised from the dead. The religious leaders knew that Peter and John were unschooled, ordinary men, and it amazed them that they were able to speak so **BOLDLY** about Jesus. They could not deny that these men had been with Jesus! The leaders commanded them not to speak any more in the name of Jesus, but Peter replied, “We cannot help speaking about what we have seen & heard.”

As Peter and John returned back to their friends after being released, they gathered together to pray. As they prayed, they acknowledged God as Sovereign (ruler over all) and as the Author of Creation. They confessed that it was God’s plan from the beginning for the religious leaders to condemn Jesus and to crucify Him on the cross. Then the group made this request to God – that He would enable them to speak His Word with great **BOLDNESS** to the unbelievers! God heard their prayer, He filled them with the Holy Spirit, and they went forth and spoke the Word of God to unbelievers with **BOLDNESS**. This is why thousands were added to the number of believers.

When is the last time you asked God to give you **BOLDNESS** to speak the Word of God to someone? When is the last time you spoke the Word of God with **BOLDNESS** to someone who needed to hear the Good News of Jesus? Just as God lined up thousands to hear and accept His message of love and forgiveness 2,000 years ago to start His Church, God has someone lined up for you to tell about Jesus. May the Holy Spirit enable you to speak His Word with **BOLDNESS**!

Prayer

Father, fill me with Your Holy Spirit, show me who I need to speak the Word of God to, & enable me to speak Your Word with great **BOLDNESS**!

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