



## **WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY**

**ACTS 5:12-42 / OCTOBER 14, 2020**

Welcome! We are so glad you are joining us in studying through the book of Acts! We have a lot to cover in this study — the story of Acts is really getting exciting! We are going to study this chapter in sections, focusing on these three big ideas: The mission is always the same. The message is always the same. God will always be glorified.

**On Sunday, we studied the story of Annanias and Saphira (from Acts 5:1-11). In Acts 5:12-16, God continues to work miracles in the church, and the church continues to grow!**

### **THE MISSION IS ALWAYS THE SAME**

**Begin by reading Acts 5:17-24 together.** What just happened?! What do you think the high priests and Sadducees are jealous of in verse 17? *(Possible answer: losing authority, influence and power among the people.)*

–What does the Angel of the Lord tell the apostles to do? What does this part of the story tell us about God?

–Is it surprising to you that the angel would tell them to go and do exactly what they were told not to do by the leaders? Why?

–If you were an apostle on this day, how would you have reacted to this command? Why? Would you have hoped for a different command? If so, like what? *(Run!, go help the homeless, be a really nice person, etc.)*

In verse 21, the apostles respond obediently. Why do you think they did? *(Read verse 29.)*

–How are we commanded to do the same today? Is obedience in this area hard? Why? Do we have the same power to be obedient to the mission God has called us to? Why?

### **THE GOSPEL MESSAGE IS ALWAYS THE SAME**

**Read Acts 5:25-33.** How would you describe the attitude of high priest and the council? What do they seem to be most concerned by? Why?

**Re-read verses 29-33.** How does the message they speak compare to Peter's previous messages in chapters 2 and 4? What themes are similar?

—Why do you think the apostles responded with this message? How might you have responded under this kind of pressure?

—What are some reasons the apostles are able to continue speaking boldly about Jesus in the face of opposition? *(Their friends prayed for them and encouraged them, they were not alone, they knew Jesus, they were filled with the Holy Spirit, etc.)*

Why is this message so offensive to the leaders? *(They do not believe that Jesus was the Son of God or in the resurrection. They genuinely believe that they are doing the right thing by trying to silence the message of the apostles.)*

Do you think they were afraid at all to continue teaching about Jesus? Why? Why is it important that they continue sharing the Gospel? Is it the same for us today?

### **GOD WILL ALWAYS BE GLORIFIED**

**Read Acts 5:34-39.** Summarize what Gamaliel said to the group of religious leaders.

**God is able to use any means necessary to bring about his purposes, including those who are against Him.**

—Is it surprising that Gamaliel is reasoning with the group in this way? Why?

**Read verses 40-42.** What is the response of the apostles after being beaten like this? Why do you think they are responding this way? *(Further proof of the Holy Spirit at work in their life.)*

—What is the outcome of the apostles being on mission to share the message of Jesus? *(God is glorified through them and many people are saved!)*

—How can we live in light of knowing that God will always be glorified, as we seek His mission and tell His message?

What is your favorite part of this story and what does it tell you about God?

**Respond in prayer. Pray that you would trust God in every situation so that you can boldly share the Gospel. Pray for people that need to hear the Gospel. Pray that God would be so big in your lives and in the life of the church. Thank God that there is no obstacle in His way to do what He wants to do.**

**If you have questions, need to pray, or just need to talk through this study with someone, contact one of our pastors or a fellow church member anytime!**

## KIDS FOCUS

**God is using Peter and the rest of the apostles to do miracles and tell about Jesus! But the leaders did not like that they are teaching about Jesus at all, and the Bible tells us they were jealous. Lets read what happens next!**

**Begin by reading Acts 5:17-20** What is happening in this story? What stands out to you the most? What does it show you about God that He sent an angel to get the apostles out of prison?

-What does the angel tell the apostles to do?

**Re-read verse 20** What do you think the word Life means here? (*The story of Jesus, the Gospel.*) What is the Gospel? (*Jesus is the Son of God who came to earth, died, was buried, and raised to life to save us from our sins!*)

-Do you think the apostles might have been afraid of being killed or thrown back in jail? Why do you think they still went to teach about Jesus? (*Because it was the truth, because they trusted God, because they had the Holy Spirit*)

-Do we still need to tell people about Jesus like the apostles did even if we are afraid? Why?

**When we have been saved by Jesus, he gives us his Holy Spirit to help us! Because of this we can be bold about sharing Jesus with people around us, no matter what!**