

UNAVOIDABLE WITNESS

Acts 4:13–22

The gospel of Jesus spreads through the **unstoppable** testimony of radically **transformed** people.

- Jesus transforms **ordinary** people into **extraordinary** witnesses. (vv. 13–14)
- The undeniable **power** of Jesus exposes the **resistance** of the human heart. (vv. 15–18)
- The authority of Jesus **compels** His witnesses to speak despite **opposition**. (vv. 19–22)

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. Read Acts 4:13–14: What astonished the religious leaders about Peter and John? How does the contrast between Peter's denial in Luke 22:54–62 and his boldness here help us understand the transforming power of Jesus and the equipping of the Holy Spirit? See also Acts 1:8 and 2 Corinthians 4:7–13, 1 Cor. 1:26–31
2. Read Acts 4:15–18: The religious authorities acknowledged the miracle but still tried to suppress the apostles' message. What does this reveal about the relationship between evidence, belief, and the human heart? John 3:19–21
3. Read Acts 4:19–20: Peter and John refused to obey an order that directly contradicted God's command. How should Christians understand the relationship between obedience to governing authorities and obedience to God? Consider Romans 13:1–7, Daniel 3:16–18, and Acts 5:29.
4. Read Acts 4:20: Peter and John said they could not stop speaking about what they had seen and heard. What makes sharing our faith difficult today? How can 1 Peter 3:13–17 help us combine conviction, courage, and graciousness?
5. What particular relationship or situation in your life calls for greater courage in identifying with Jesus? How can the example of Peter, the promise of the Holy Spirit, and the prayer of Acts 4:29–31 shape your response?
6. How does this encounter of Peter and John encourage your participation in the Great Commission? Matt. 28:18–20

“I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now... Come further up, come further in!” — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle

