



Extraordinary Boldness

August 9, 2026

Acts 4:1-22

Introduction:

God desires, and does, use common, ordinary people to accomplish his purposes!

Peter and John Arrested (V1,3)

"1 And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them.....3 And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day for it was already evening"

- Even though there is great fruit from their preaching, Peter and John still suffered physical consequences for their actions.
- **2 Tim. 3:12** "All who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."

Extraordinary Boldness (V8-12)

"8Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, 9if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, 10let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. 11This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. 12And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men—by which we must be saved."

- Same ruling council that condemned Jesus to death just weeks prior.
- **Luke 12:11-12** "And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers, and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, for the Holy Spirit will teach in that very hour what you ought to say."

Summary of Peter's Message:

- The cause of the healing was faith in Jesus the man who was lame is now standing before you.
- Peter's quotes **Psalm 118:22** to testify about Jesus death, resurrection and reign.
 - The stone you rejected - Jesus crucified
 - Has become the cornerstone - Jesus resurrected
 - Salvation is found only in His name



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Response of the Ruling Council (v13-18)

*13*Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. *14*But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.

- Verse 13 - The boldness came not from education or training but from Jesus through His Spirit.
- **1 Cor. 1:27-29** “For God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong, God chose what is low and despised in the world to, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God”.
- What can you say against two men who healed a lame man and the lame man is standing before you right then and there?

Fear men or God? (V19-22)

*19*But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, *20*for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”

- What they have seen and heard is so great that they can’t help but to testify about Jesus and what He has done.

God Uses Ordinary People

- Seminary education, academic training doesn’t replace the filling and empowerment of the Holy Spirit.
- But He doesn’t use people in this sort of way against their will.
- Are we available to be used?

Four Guides for Spirit Leading:

1. Sensitivity: Setting our minds and pursuing the manifesting of the Kingdom. Pray for eyes to see and ears to hear what the Spirit is doing in the people around you.
2. Seek: When you do become aware, ask God how he wants to use you in the situation.
3. Surrender: Have a settled intention to surrender and obey whatever God calls you into.
4. Step Off: Go, in partnership with the Holy Spirit, and do it.

**Do you believe God wants to use you for his glory?
If so, are you open to being redirected and
inconvenienced?**

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