

# Sermon Notes

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## Having the Confidence to Proclaim Jesus

Acts 4:1-31

Christian Sanich, 11/25/2018

**Text sermon questions, during the sermon, to (602) 824-8030**

**4:1-4 Peter and John are arrested for proclaiming, in Jesus, the resurrection from the dead, but 5,000+ believe.**

**4:5-12 Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, tells to the Jewish authorities that there is no other way to be saved than Jesus.**

Peter seems to have expected them to reject Jesus.

**4:13-22 Peter and John had confidence to proclaim Jesus, despite being uneducated and without religious training.**

“Confidence” = courage to proclaim what you believe, publicly

You know Jesus and enough for you to get saved.

You can be filled with the Spirit in order to speak confidently.

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We should share Jesus when God leads us to, despite what we think the results might be.

What if my workplace won't allow me to talk about religion?

God wants us to submit to our human authorities, unless it contradicts the directions from God.

**4:23-31 Peter and John go back to other Christians, they pray together to speak the God's word with confidence, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with confidence.**

24, God is Master of the universe, the ultimate authority.

25-28, People, even authorities, were against Christ.

29-30, They are against His servants, Christians

31, They were all filled and continued to speak with confidence

If you feel ill-trained, or afraid rejection or persecution, you should pray to share the word of God with confidence.

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**What is your response to this? Discuss it with someone today.**

Suggested related reading: our call to testify, 1 Peter 3:15

If you would like to receive weekly sermon application questions, e-mail [Christian@StoneCreekBibleChurch.org](mailto:Christian@StoneCreekBibleChurch.org)

Application questions for 11/25/18 sermon

Acts 4:1-31

## **Having the Confidence to Proclaim Jesus**

There are many questions in this session. Not every one needs to the same amount of time. Some of the questions can have a few respondents and only take a minute. Others may lead to an important discussion and you need to dwell there longer. Try to manage your time well, so as to spend some time on each question.

Read verses 1-4.

(Keep this discussion of these first two questions brief. There are many questions to come.)

Tell us of your experience: what are non-Christians reactions to talk, specifically, about Jesus, verses any other religious talk, if you've noticed any difference?

So, what should we expect a lot of times if we are going to talk to non-Christians about Jesus?

Read verses 5-12.

When you do share Jesus, or when you think of talking to someone about Jesus, is it, or would it be, part of your proclamation that salvation (heaven) is only in Jesus Christ? Why do you think it should or shouldn't be?

Should it be part of our presentation, even if it seems like it increases the likelihood that our hearers may respond negatively?

Read verses 13-22.

You may have thought of the apostles, like Peter, as very different than you - them being more capable to share the gospel, because of something special about them. Is that true, and why?

How does it seem Peter was able to so courageously proclaim Jesus (look at verse 8 if needed)? And, in that same way, do you have the capability to courageously proclaim Jesus?

(Everybody should search their heart on this. Not everyone needs to give an extended answer.)

What tends to deter you from sharing Jesus with non-Christians? Be specific.

(If having trouble assessing that, here are some ideas to help search your hearts: fear of inadequacy, rejection, threat, or persecution)

Should fear of inadequacy, rejection, threat, or persecution deter us from sharing Jesus with nonChristians? Why?

How can we get the courage to share Jesus with non-Christians?

Read verses 23-31.

**(Make sure to make it to this question, and try to have everyone answer.)**

What do you want to do - start doing, do differently, etc. - as a result of what you have studied and discussed?

Do you have a question for the group? It might be something you don't understand that others could help with, or something you think should be covered that hasn't.