

Transformed

Acts 4:1-21

1. We are Ordinary People – Like Peter and John – But God Uses People Like Us.

Acts 4:1-2 -The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. ²They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.

2. Our Problem: We Lack a Vision for How God Works in the Ordinary.

Acts 4:3-4 -They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.

3. Peter and John Are Our Guides.

Acts 4:5-12 - The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem.⁶ Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. ⁷They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, ¹⁰then know this, you and all of the people Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹Jesus is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the the cornerstone." ¹²Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

4. Truly Being with Jesus – Creates Astonishing Lives.

Acts 4:13 - When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

5. People Don't Know What To Do.

Acts 4:14-17 - But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. ¹⁵So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together. ¹⁶"What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everyone living in Jerusalem knows they have performed a notable sign, and we cannot deny it. ¹⁷But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn them not to speak longer to anyone in this name."

6. Don't Be Intimidated.

Acts 4:18 - Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

7. Choose Bold Faith.

Acts 4:18 19-21 - But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to Him? You be the judges! ²⁰As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."²¹ After further threats they let them go.