

## STUDY GUIDE

Acts 4:1-31

“The Power of a Bold Witness”

- 1) Where do you see a desperate need for God in the world today? The full meaning of the Greek word in our text for “*boldness*” (parrhesia) is “an overflowing of joyful courage and an outpouring of fearless confidence.” How can we be bold witnesses for Christ in this way?
  
- 2) Discuss the meaning and share the implications of the statement that Peter and John had “*spent so time with Jesus, and they had so fully given so much of themselves to Jesus, that people saw their bold, Spirit empowered witness for Jesus Christ just by looking at them.*”
  
- 3) How can ordinary people become bold, Spirit empowered witnesses for Jesus Christ?
  
- 4) What is the foundational reason that broken people can be bold, Spirit empowered witnesses for Jesus Christ? Share how God has used brokenness in your own life to point people to Christ.
  
- 5) In the context of being a witness for Jesus Christ - Why will God will not ignore our disobedience? Discuss the statement: “In the face of fear and adversity and loss, God will test us in this.”
  
- 6) In what ways are worshipping people bold, Spirit empowered witnesses for Jesus Christ?
  
- 7) Discuss the meaning and the witness of the following two statements regarding prayer:
  - “Prayer is not a plea for God’s protection in the face of danger; rather prayer is a plea for God’s power, no matter if there is danger or not.”
  
  - “Throughout history those who wrote about prayer were not largely people of intercession. They rarely went to God to get him to do things for them. Rather they were enthralled by a hunger for a deeper relationship with God.”
  
- 8) **FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:** Discuss the implications (personally and for the church) of . . .

*And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.*

**Acts 4:31**