



## INTRODUCTION

*Only a love stronger than death could inspire the boldness we witness in the disciples of Jesus. We need this boldness! Discover how the name of Jesus inspires boldness today!*

## READ THE STORY

### ACTS 4

## STUDY THE WORD

1. What is the significance of the name of Jesus? Why is Jesus' name above other names? Why did the Sanhedrin forbid the use of Jesus name?

Acts 4:10,12	Acts 3:6	Jhn 14:13-14	Lk 10:17	Phil 2:9-10
Col 3:17	Acts 4:17-18	Jhn 11:47-48	Acts 5:28	

2. When does preaching Christ cause opposition or foster unity? Why did preaching the resurrection cause opposition? Should we only share unifying messages, or is there a place for divisive ones?

Jn 15:18-19	2Tim 3:12	Jn 17:20-21	Act 4:32	Act 4:2	Act 17:32
Act 23:8	Rom 12:18	1Cor 1:10	Heb 12:14	Eph 5:11	Eccl 3:7

3. Who guided Peter as he gave his defense? Why did the Holy Spirit lead Peter to highlight they had crucified Jesus? What promise does God give us when we must stand trial?

Act 4:8, 10	Act 2:22-24	Jn 16:7-11	Matt 10:19-20	Lk 21:14-15
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4. "What convinced the Sanhedrin that Peter and John were connected to Jesus? Why didn't the Sanhedrin punish them? Should we fear persecution? Share an experience when you saw someone who had been with Jesus, and how you knew?

Act 4:13-14	Jn 7:15-16	Jn 14:12	Act 4:16-17	Lk 20:19	Heb 5:22-23
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5. How did Peter respond when commanded and threatened not to preach Christ? Why couldn't Peter stop? What will keep you faithful to Jesus when threatened to abandon your faith?

Act 4:19-20	Act 5:29	Lk 12:45	2Cor 4:13	Jer 20:9
2Cor 5:14-15	Rom 1:16	2Tim 1:7-8	Heb 12:2-3	

## LIFE APPLICATION

**Identity:** How does your relationship with Jesus shape your identity in the face of opposition or challenges to your faith, and how can you stand firm in that identity like Peter and John did before the Sanhedrin?

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**Purpose:** In what ways can you live out your purpose to proclaim Christ, even when it might lead to discomfort or persecution? How can you stay motivated by the example of Peter, who couldn't stop preaching Christ?

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**Relationship:** How does your faith in Jesus influence your relationships with others—both those who share your beliefs and those who oppose them? How can you demonstrate Christ's love while staying true to your convictions?

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