



A New Way to Live

Introduction: Peter and John continue to preach and teach in the name of Jesus. The Lord is performing signs and wonders through the hands of the apostles and many are being healed and brought to faith. The High priest and religious authorities are jealous and arrest the apostles. The Lord delivers them and tells them to keep preaching and teaching “this new way to live.”

Text: Acts 5:12-42

Discussion:

1. Icebreaker: Write/Discuss of a time when you have experienced God deliver you from a difficult situation.
2. What is the significance of the miracles in Acts 5:12-16? How does this connect with Jesus’ words to the apostles in the gospels, and the prayer in Acts 4:29-31?
3. Why was the high priest and religious authorities upset?
4. What is the danger of jealousy? How has jealousy impacted your life in a negative way?
5. An angel was sent to delivered the apostles. What did the angel tell them to do? What does “this Life” refer to?
6. What did the apostles do after they were released?
7. Why is obedience to the word of God vital to the Christian life?
8. Why were the religious authorities opposed to the preaching in Jesus name?
9. Why does our culture get offended at the name of Jesus?
10. Do you ever feel pressured to be silent about your faith in Jesus? Why or why not?
11. How can we have the same boldness of the apostles?
12. How were the apostles able to handle persecution? How can we face opposition to our faith in the same way?
13. They rejoiced when they were punished for teaching about Jesus. Why did they rejoice? How does this help you live a life of obedience even when you might face ridicule or harm?
14. What does it mean to say that Jesus is your “LORD?”
15. On a scale from 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest. How committed are you to submitting every area of your life to Christ?

Think About it:

Jesus calls us to a new way to live. He saves us from the penalty and power of sin. He sends us to go and tell others of this life! The Christian life is one of obedience and submission to the will of the Lord. We are to seek to please him. His way becomes our way. His thoughts our thoughts. The things he loves—we love. That which he hates—we hate. If we are his disciples, then we are to live for him. There is no room for sideline faith. We need to be engaged and in the game and live out our faith on a daily basis. Let’s share and declare this LIFE!

Moving Forward:

Meditate on this thought this week: tell people all the words of this Life! Have a mindset that your life will be a witness this week everywhere you go. Live a life of faithful obedience at school, work, home, around your friends, and when you go out into the community. Take the opportunity to share your faith with at least one person this week.