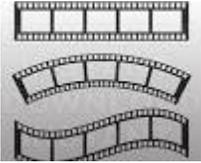


# Acts 4 - Lesson 5



1. **Summary of Events:** Write down the location, specific witnesses and what happened in each scene of this chapter.

Scene	Passage	Location	Who are the witnesses?	What happened? What power was received and how were these people witnesses of Christ?
4.1	4:1-4			
4.2	4:5-12			
4.3	4:13-22			
4.4	4:23-31			
4.5	4:32-33			

How do these events relate to the overall theme of the book?

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## Acts 4

As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple *guard* and the Sadducees came up to them, <sup>2</sup> being greatly disturbed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. <sup>3</sup> And they laid hands on them and put them in jail until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup> But many of those who had heard the message believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup> On the next day, their rulers and elders and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem; <sup>6</sup> and Annas the high priest *was there*, and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of high-priestly descent. <sup>7</sup> When they had placed them in the center, they *began to* inquire, “By what power, or in what name, have you done this?” <sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, Rulers and elders of the people, <sup>9</sup> if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, <sup>10</sup> let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by this *name* this man stands here before you in good health. <sup>11</sup> He is the STONE WHICH WAS REJECTED by you, THE BUILDERS, *but* WHICH BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER *stone*. <sup>12</sup> And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

<sup>13</sup> Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and *began to* recognize them as having been with Jesus. <sup>14</sup> And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they had nothing to say in reply. <sup>15</sup> But when they had ordered them to leave the Council, they *began to* confer with one another, <sup>16</sup> saying, “What shall we do with these men? For the fact that a noteworthy miracle has taken place through them is apparent to all who live in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. <sup>17</sup> But so that it will not spread any further among the people, let us warn them to speak no longer to any man in this name.” <sup>18</sup> And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. <sup>19</sup> But Peter and John answered and said to them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge; <sup>20</sup> for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard.” <sup>21</sup> When they had threatened them further, they let them go (finding no basis on which to punish them) on account of the people, because they were all glorifying God for what had happened; <sup>22</sup> for the man was more than forty years old on whom this miracle of healing had been performed.

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<sup>23</sup> When they had been released, they went to their own *companions* and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. <sup>24</sup> And when they heard *this*, they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, "O Lord, it is You who MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IS IN THEM, <sup>25</sup> who by the Holy Spirit, *through* the mouth of our father David Your servant, said, 'WHY DID THE GENTILES RAGE, AND THE PEOPLES DEVISE FUTILE THINGS? <sup>26</sup> 'THE KINGS OF THE EARTH TOOK THEIR STAND, AND THE RULERS WERE GATHERED TOGETHER AGAINST THE LORD AND AGAINST HIS CHRIST.' <sup>27</sup> For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, <sup>28</sup> to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur. <sup>29</sup> And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence, <sup>30</sup> while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy-servant Jesus." <sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and *began* to speak the word of God with boldness.

<sup>32</sup> And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one *of them* claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them. <sup>33</sup> And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales <sup>35</sup> and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.

<sup>36</sup> Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement), <sup>37</sup> and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

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2. Take a moment to write out our memory verse for this week: Acts 4:12.

3. Read through Chapter 4 and underline each time you see a reference to God and Jesus. Write what you learn about them what you learn about them from this chapter. The HOLY SPIRIT is also a key theme, so your observations will be noted in the next question.

**God:**

**Jesus:**

4. Highlight/mark key words and write down what you learn about them and how they continue to express the theme of Acts.

HOLY SPIRIT-

POWER-

WITNESSES-

5. Answer the following questions about Peter and John's situation:

- ◇ Where do Peter and John find themselves after they preached the gospel in Acts 4:3?
- ◇ Which people question them in Acts 4:8?
- ◇ What is said about **Sovereign**?



- <sup>7</sup> The LORD is for me among those who help me;  
Therefore I will look *with satisfaction* on those who hate me.
- <sup>8</sup> It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.
- <sup>9</sup> It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.
- <sup>10</sup> All nations surrounded me; In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.
- <sup>11</sup> They surrounded me, yes, they surrounded me; In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.
- <sup>12</sup> They surrounded me like bees; They were extinguished as a fire of thorns;  
In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.
- <sup>13</sup> You pushed me violently so that I was falling, But the LORD helped me.
- <sup>14</sup> The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.
- <sup>15</sup> The sound of joyful shouting and salvation is in the tents of the righteous;  
The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.
- <sup>16</sup> The right hand of the LORD is exalted; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.
- <sup>17</sup> I will not die, but live, And tell of the works of the LORD.
- <sup>18</sup> The LORD has disciplined me severely, But He has not given me over to death.
- <sup>19</sup> Open to me the gates of righteousness;  
I shall enter through them, I shall give thanks to the LORD.
- <sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the LORD; The righteous will enter through it.
- <sup>21</sup> I shall give thanks to You, for You have answered me, And You have become my salvation.
- <sup>22</sup> The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief corner *stone*.
- <sup>23</sup> This is the LORD'S doing; It is marvelous in our eyes.
- <sup>24</sup> This is the day which the LORD has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- <sup>25</sup> O LORD, do save, we beseech You; O LORD, we beseech You, do send prosperity!
- <sup>26</sup> Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;  
We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.
- <sup>27</sup> The LORD is God, and He has given us light;  
Bind the festival sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.
- <sup>28</sup> You are my God, and I give thanks to You; *You are* my God, I extol You.
- <sup>29</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Why did Peter and John use Psalm 118 as a reference in their Acts 4 sermon?

7. How did the believers respond to the opposition that was given to Peter and John from the chief priests and elders?

8. We can use the acronyms EPICS to help us look for specific ways to apply the text.

**Examples to follow:**

\*What did you learn in Chapter 4 about being a follower of Jesus? What was the example set for us in the early church?

**Promises to expect:**

**Identity reminders:**

**Commands to follow:**

**Sins to forsake:**

9. What is one way you will implement what you have learned this week.

For example: I will be more generous in my giving by....

I will pray and seek to share my testimony with \_\_\_\_\_ this week.