



Discussion Questions for Acts 4:5-13 “They Had Been with Jesus”
Week of October 18th- 24th, 2009

Warm Up In what environment do you connect best with the Lord?

Questions for Interaction

- On Sunday, George mentioned that Peter had been with Jesus, but fear caused him to deny it (**Matt. 26:69-75**). In addition, Paul rebukes Peter for his fear of the Judaizers (**Gal. 2:11-21**). Boldness results when we properly fear God and cultivate closeness with Jesus. If you’ve found this to be true in your own life, share how? Why do you think a fear of man (rather than God), can lead to hypocrisy? How have you seen this to be true?
- In **Acts 4:1-4**, the temple guards and Sadducees were “greatly disturbed” by Peter and John proclaiming Jesus’ resurrection and victory over death. The message of salvation through faith in Jesus evokes a passionate response. Sometimes the response is positive and sometimes it is negative. Read **Matthew 10:34-39**. What do Jesus’ words evoke in you? What is His point and how do you personally wrestle with this?
- In **Acts 4:8-14**, we see the overwhelming confidence of Peter and John as they take a stand for Christ. These were not just men being questioned about their faith; these were followers of Jesus being persecuted, jailed, and challenged for their beliefs. As believers in a modern world, how can we take a stand for Christ so that we are not merely claiming Him, but are righteously devoted to following Him?
- Confidence is defined as - “trust or faith in a person or thing”. At times, confidence may feel temporary. Christ calls us, however, to a life of confidence in Him. In **Acts 4**, we learn about what it means to be confident in Christ. As Christians, how can we prepare ourselves today to so that we can approach any situation with boldness and confidence? What, if anything, stands between you and your ability to be confident in Christ?

Wrap Up: Close your group time by silently dwelling on these powerful words: “A Christ-captivated life enables us to live an extraordinary life. We are not limited to the confines of our own intellect or talent. The secret is Christ in us (Col. 1:27), And Christ must get all the honor and glory. Our reward is a boldness in knowing who we are, whose we are, and for what we were born. Its all about Jesus!”