

TAKEAWAY

EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE



Part Eight: Acts 4:1-22

At Maybridge we want to be a church of disciples who make disciples – we hope this takeaway session encourages practical outcomes in the lives of the individuals in your group. The focus of group discussion should be on becoming 'doers of the word' and not just hearers or people who enjoy a good discussion!

INTRODUCTION

At heart Acts is a message for everyone everywhere, about a person who is for everyone everywhere. In this session we explore how Peter and John continued to talk about Jesus in the face of opposition.

SHARE

- Where do we most feel the pressure to conform to the values, behaviours and ideals of today's culture? Where do you think that pressure comes from?

READ

Acts 4:1-22

DISCUSS

Why do you think the authorities could not deny the miracle (verse 16), yet still resisted the message?

Sunday's message said that Christians should ideally *want* to talk about Jesus, not merely feel obligated to. What's the difference between those two motivations? Do you find that you want to talk about Jesus (no matter how good you feel you are or are not at doing so!)?

The passage says Peter was 'filled with the Holy Spirit' (verse 8). What does that actually mean? How does a person become filled with the Spirit now, and what results would we expect that to bring?

Peter and John are described as "unschooled, ordinary men" (verse 13.) Why do you think that detail matters? What does it tell us?

What kinds of opposition do Christians in modern Britain most commonly face today?

Does opposition deepen someone's faith rather than weaken it? Why or why not?

How might facing suffering or persecution for following Jesus make us more like Him? Do you agree or struggle with this idea? Why?

How enthusiastic would you say you are about sharing and speaking about Jesus right now? Why so? What holds you back from doing so? How might you encourage one another to grow in this area?

PRAY

Ask each person in the group to name someone they know who is quite opposed to faith in Jesus. Pray for them.

TRY OUT

- Pray and ask God to give you the opportunity to talk about Jesus to one person this week. Ask for the direction and wisdom of the Holy Spirit, and make plans to meet or interact with not-yet Christians.
- Commit to pray each day for the person you named who is opposed to faith in Jesus.