

## **BIBLE STUDY**

Bible Study Scripture Theme: 2 Timothy 2:15 April 25, 2023

Dr. Ingrid Bethune, Instructor

## The Book of Acts

Theme: Can I Get a Witness - The Gospel to the Ends of the Earth Theme Scripture: Acts 1:8

Lesson Topic: The Power of His Name – Prayer & Power

Lesson Scripture: Acts 4:23-37

## I. THE CHURCH CALLING ON HIS NAME – VV. 23-31

- A. Their Return V. 23
- B. The Saints' Three Bold Prayers of Adoration VV. 24–28, Psalm 2
  - 1. God Is Creator V. 24; Isaiah 40:28; Hebrews 1:2
    - ¬ God is the Designer and Craftsman of everything in the universe.
  - 2. God Is Omniscient VV. 25–27; 1 John 3:20; Matthew 10:29-30
    - ¬ Omniscience is defined as "the state of having total knowledge, the quality of knowing everything."
  - 3. God Is Sovereign V. 28; Jeremiah 32:17; Colossians 1:16
    - ¬ Sovereign It means being the ultimate source of all power, authority, and everything that exists.
- C. Two Specific Prayer Requests VV. 29-30

- 1. Boldness in Speech
- 2. Ability to Perform Signs and Wonders
- ¬ Augustine said, "Pray as though everything depends on God, and work as though everything depended on you."
  - D. God Heard and Responded to Their Prayers V. 31

¬ P	, be F	with the Holy Spirit, and
S	the Word of God B	in Jesus' Name

## II. THE PROGRESS OF THE CHURCH – VV. 32-37

- A. Their Unity V. 32
- B. Their Greatness V. 33
- C. Their Liberality VV. 34-37

**Application**: There are at least four reasons why we should pray boldly to our Lord. First, the disciples prayed to God who is all-powerful. We have the same privilege in prayer. Today, we who believe in Christ pray to the same Sovereign Lord. Second, we see in the passage that both the Jews and the Gentiles were implicated in the death of Jesus. Even though they were guilty, what they did was part of God's plan. We know that God sets the stage and sends His Spirit to encourage people to do His will. Many will yield to His will while many won't. No matter their decision, God will weave all things together for His good and ours, so pray confidently for all people to know and respect God. *Third*, the disciples prayed that they'd speak the Word of God with confidence. We can pray similarly. Let's ask God to help us speak the Word of God to one another and to many others with a confident "telling it all" boldness. Finally, God filled the disciples with His Spirit, and He fills us with the Spirit to be bold in our witnessing to all people. When the believers prayed, their house was shaken in direct answer to prayer. When we pray, let's be sure to ask the Spirit to enliven us so we can effectively and boldly tell others about how our lives have benefited through our having a personal, intimate relationship with Jesus.

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