

The Kingdom Church at War

Building His Church: Part 5

| October 17, 2021

Our focus passages for the year:

- Matthew 16:16-19
- 1 Corinthians 12:27

Today's focus of study:

- Acts 3 & 4

Acts 3:12

When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?"

Acts 4:13-14

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say.

Acts 4:31

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Characteristics of a Kingdom Church:

- Our commitment to _____
Hebrews 11:16
- Our stance of courage during _____
Acts 4:31
- Our hearts in _____ with one another
Acts 4:24
- Our service as his _____ on the front lines
2 Corinthians 5:20
- Our knees in _____ before God
Acts 4:31

The Kingdom Wall of His Church is built by Holy Spirit empowered citizens of God's Kingdom, who freely share the treasure of God's Kingdom, while standing boldly in His truth and kneeling humbly before the Sovereign God.

Digging Deeper

For Small Group Conversation and Exploration

- What are the battles that we face as a church right now in our current world? (Think carefully and deeply; try not to come up with issues that just irritate you personally.) (5 minutes)
- What are the battles that God would truly see as the biggest struggles we face right now? (5 minutes)
- What are the battles that you personally are facing as a disciple right now? (5 minutes)
- Where does courage come from during times of suffering? (5 minutes)
- Is there a time when you have sincerely gone before the Almighty in earnest and fervent prayer? (5 minutes)

Examining our church (LifeWay) as Christ's Body (15 minutes)

- Does our church (LifeWay) look *anything* like the early church we see in Acts 3 & 4?

Examining yourself personally as a part of the Body of Christ at LifeWay Church (15 minutes)

- Do *you*, as a member of this church, look anything like those in Acts 4 who were praying before God?
- How much time do you spend praying for the brokenness in this world?

Spend time in prayer with your group, praying for... (15 minutes)

- Your part in Building God's Church here
- Those you know of whom God has called YOU to help reach

PERSONAL EXPLORATION THIS WEEK

Spend some time this week contemplating some of the challenges you were faced with in this first section of building the Kingdom Wall of His Church. Read Acts 3 & 4 again, considering the power of God's work through His Church. Are you ready to join His Church to be His Body in this broken world?

Next week we will begin our focus on the mission of His Church—as we move toward our annual Missions Focus called the Global Impact Celebration. Be praying for this.