



“The early church faces persecution for preaching about what they’ve seen and heard. In this series we will look at what the response of the disciples was as well as focus on what we’ve seen and heard and how we might be encouraged to bear witness to that reality in our day-to-day lives.”

DATE	SCRIPTURE	PRAYER
10/17	“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John...” Acts 4:13a	<i>Lord, may we be seen as people who are confident in you like our brothers, Peter and John. May we trust you in all circumstances. Remind us of who you are. In your name, Amen.</i>
10/18	“...and perceived that they were uneducated, common men...” Acts 4:13b	<i>Lord, we often think much of ourselves, but, in reality, we are common people loved by an uncommon God. May we give you all the glory and recognize that we don’t have to be great because we worship a great God! Amen.</i>
10/19	“...they were astonished.” Acts 4:13c	<i>Lord when you use common people to do uncommon things, you astonish the watching world. We ask you to use us however you wish to bring about your Kingdom on earth. May your will be done! Amen.</i>
10/20	“And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.” Acts 4:13d	<i>Lord, may we walk so closely with you, may we act so much like you, may we speak so much like you that people see you when they look at us. Amen.</i>
10/21	“But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them...” Acts 4:14a	<i>Lord, it is not our duty to prove who you are or what you are doing in this world. The proof is all around us and undeniable to those who would open their eyes to see. Let us merely point to you and the work of your hands and allow you to open the eyes of the blind. Amen.</i>
10/22	“...they had nothing to say in opposition.” Acts 4:14b	<i>Father, when confronted by your truth, there is nothing anyone can say. We become speechless. You are great and do great things and those things are evident to any who might look. May we be confident in you. Amen.</i>

DATE	SCRIPTURE	PRAYER
10/23	<i>"But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, saying, "What shall we do with these men?" Acts 4:15-16a</i>	<i>Jesus, when we live like you, in unity with the Father, Son and Spirit, the world doesn't know what to do with us. It is confounded by us, by you reflected in us. Help us to increasingly be okay living differently than the world. Amen.</i>
10/24	<i>"For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem..." Acts 4:16b</i>	<i>Lord, when you move, everyone knows it. There is no denying it is you. It takes greater faith to ignore and try to explain away your movements than to embrace the truth that the God of the universe is active and working in the world around us. May we be lights that shine where you are working in the world. Amen.</i>
10/25	<i>"..and we cannot deny it." Acts 4:16c</i>	<i>Lord, when you move, we know it. We can't deny when we see you move in our lives. Open our eyes to see you working in our lives. Amen.</i>
10/26	<i>"But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." Acts 4:17</i>	<i>Father God, give us the strength, the faith, the confidence to continue to speak in the name of your Son. May we give Him all the glory. Amen.</i>
10/27	<i>"So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus." Acts 4:18</i>	<i>Lord, we think that we understand persecution. We experience someone unliking us on Facebook or unfollowing us on Instagram and we feel like their nails driven through your hands. We are thankful that we live in a world where we don't experience persecution like our first-century brothers and sisters, but we also fear that because our faith isn't tested, isn't challenged, that it is weak. We experience paper cuts as if they were amputations. We are soft and if we are to endure to the end, we need to be strong in you, so with trembling legs we pray for you to guide us through the desert, to lead us to where our faith gets stronger. Go with us, do not abandon us. Grow us to be strong in you. Amen.</i>
10/28	<i>"But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God..." Acts 4:19a</i>	<i>Lord, all we do should be in light of you, right in your sight. Lord, shed your light on our lives, on our actions and show us the way to live as reflections of you. Amen.</i>
10/29	<i>"But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God..." Acts 4:19a</i>	<i>Jesus, we live in a world with so much noise, so many voices, sometimes it can be hard to discern your voice. Help us still our minds, silence the world, and learn to hear your voice in the chaos. When we hear, let us be obedient to you. In your name, amen.</i>
10/30	<i>"But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge," Acts 4:19</i>	<i>Lord, you've given authority to those in power over us, even if we don't agree with them or understand where they are leading. Help us to remember that you call us to honor those in authority over us, to pray for them and not to gossip or slander. May we honor you by how we treat even those over us, Lord. In your holy name we pray, amen.</i>

DATE	SCRIPTURE	PRAYER
10/31	"...for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard." Acts 4:20	<i>Messiah Jesus, please remind us of what we've seen and heard that we might not be able to contain ourselves. Help us to speak about you and all you've done to everyone who will listen. Help us be full to overflowing with excitement at the reality of your Kingdom coming to bear on the world. Amen.</i>
11/1	"And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened." Acts 4:21	<i>Lord, it is our dream, our desire that the world, that our community around us would be brought to praising your name. Use us, Lord, to glorify you in our homes, in our workplaces, in our communities, and in our world. Amen.</i>
11/2	"For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old." Acts 4:22	<i>Father, sometimes our circumstances seem hopeless. Remind us that nothing is impossible for you. Even that sin that we have struggled with for years can be overcome in a moment when you transform our hearts. Remind us of how powerful you are. Strengthen us to be able to stay the course. You are able. Amen.</i>
11/3	"for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard." Acts 22:15	<i>Lord Jesus, you told us that we would be witnesses of what you've done in this world. That is our role as your Spirit-filled church. We are called to share what we've seen and heard with anyone and everyone who will listen. Help us live into this calling. Amen.</i>
11/4	"What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:9	<i>Lord, I often want to tell people, like Dennis Rodman, "I am not a role model." The reality is, we all are, the question is are we one that honors you or one that dishonors you? Help transform us that we might live lives where we feel confident telling people to emulate us as we seek to emulate you. Through your power alone will we be able to do this, amen.</i>
11/5	"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us." 1 John 1:1-2	<i>Father, we are called to testify about what we've seen and heard of you and your Son. When we do this, we speak life into this world. Fill us with your Spirit that we might live as you've called us to live. Amen.</i>
11/6	3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ." 1 John 1:3	<i>Lord, may we speak about what we've seen and heard to a world that needs to know you, to one another in fellowship, in thankfulness to you for all you are and all you've done. Praised be your name! Amen.</i>