

BOLDNESS

Boldness is derived declaration—when what’s facing you is bigger than what’s in you.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ Confidence is the internal assurance derived from God’s sovereignty that validates a person. Boldness is the external expression of that confidence when facing opposition.
- ❖ As Christians with a mindset to fulfill Jesus’ mission to seek and to save the lost in our day, we need daily boldness. This mission is other worldly; it’s from heaven, so the world will resist it. We must be equipped to overcome this resistance in the right way, just like the Apostles in the early church.

Opposition is inevitable and can overwhelm a life of impact.
- ❖ In Acts 4, Peter and John had been arrested and then censored by the religious leaders who told them not to teach or speak at all in the Name of Jesus or else they would suffer punishment. After their release, they went back to their own people and reported what had happened. Upon hearing this, the Church “...raised their voices together in prayer to God...
- ❖ “...Sovereign Lord,’ they said, ‘you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them” (v. 24). The phrase “Sovereign Lord” is a powerful refrain in scripture that both venerates God’s ultimate authority and makes personal His Covenantal intimacy.
- ❖ “You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: ‘Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?’” (v. 25; Psalm 2:1-2). Worldly powers dared to rise up in opposition to the Sovereign God and His anointed One. That was David in his day, but the prophetic nature of this word is that it applies to the anointed Christ Jesus and extends to the body of Christ, the Church. So, opposition is inevitable.
- ❖ From a human point of view, when faced with obstacles that are bigger than us, the fight or flight instinct kicks in on the side of flight. It’s natural to feel overwhelmed. But from a spiritual point of view, the opposition is in vain when it comes to the purposes of God.
- ❖ God wants you to have impact, but impact makes you visible and has a way of attracting opposition. You take a position that you’re confident in. Then an **O**bstruction **P**ressuring your **p**osition shows up. **OP**-position. That’s when confidence is necessary but not sufficient. You need boldness to, in God’s words to Moses, “...Speak to that rock” (Numbers 20:8).

When the local authority threatens you, appeal to the Universal Authority.
- ❖ Luke 23 talks about the torture Jesus endured before being crucified, telling us in verse 12 that Herod and Pilate—who had been enemies—became friends on that day. More than that, the Roman gentiles oppressing the Jews united together against Jesus (Isaiah 53:3). If there’s one thing that will unite evil, it’s an offensive against good.
- ❖ Peter drew a parallel to what the church was experiencing to the culture—the local authority—that was against Jesus at that time, pointing to two contradictory positions. The first is a **conspiracy**, which literally means to “breathe together” and form a secret pact to perform a profane act. The second is **holy**, that which describes what is fundamentally separate from the profane (Acts 4:27).
- ❖ So, this isn’t about legitimate leadership exercising their mandate to maintain righteous judgment and order. Rather, it is about evil

KEY SCRIPTURE: Acts 4:24-30 *(all scripture in NIV unless otherwise noted)*

- uniting to transcend its bounds and touch what had been declared ‘good’ by the anointing of God, the absolute authority over all that exists.
- ❖ Ah, but the sovereignty of God! “They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen” (v. 28). Even when evildoers act against Him, they end up fulfilling His plan. That’s why in every situation we can appeal to the Universal Authority, the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

God doesn’t just author the message; He authorizes the messenger.
 - ❖ The early Church knew who they were and what their position was in Jesus, and called on God: “Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great **boldness**” (v. 29).
 - ❖ The Church was concerned to speak **God’s** Word, not their own. They realized they could only do so if God authorized them to. Absent this, their words would be inconsequential.
 - ❖ In Acts 5:29, Peter and the other apostles told the religious leaders, “We must obey God rather than human beings!” That’s the boldness we’re asking God for today—the external expression of that internal assurance derived from God’s sovereignty when facing opposition.
 - ❖ Our boldness rests on the assurance of the two hands of the same God that uphold it: on the one hand is the word we speak that is derived from God; on the other is the word we speak that is confirmed by God.
 - ❖ Boldness is derived declaration—when what’s facing you is bigger than what’s in you. God’s Word will direct you—that’s a guarantee. His Spirit will empower you—no question about that. But you’ve got to receive the Word and apply the gifts of the Spirit. That will only work if you’re “all in”.
 - ❖ There are times when boldness has consequences, but being 100% committed means being willing to live—or die—with the consequences. It is then that we can say, “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain” (Philippians 1:21).
 - ❖ May God give us boldness to do His perfect will in this generation.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. What precipitated the events taking place with the religious leaders in Acts 4:24-30 was an episode where Peter and John healed a lame man who had been begging outside the temple in Acts 3:1-10. Read what happened and discuss the man’s original state, what he thought he needed, and what he had received instead. Also discuss in relation to James 4:3.
2. Acts 5:29 says, “We must obey God rather than human beings!” Have you ever encountered an **O**bstruction **P**ressuring your **p**osition that put your obedience to God to the test? Did you succumb to the **OP**-position and, if so, what would you now do differently? If instead you had displayed boldness in God, how did you do so and what was the result?

PRAYER TIME

Lord, help us not to succumb to **OP**-position but to speak Your Word boldly and be strong in You.

Start-up: Have you ever been bold in declaring something and people shot you down? What is the best way to deal with naysayers?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week’s message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

- ✓ (Reminds me/Confirms)
- 💡 (New idea)
- 🗨️ (Think about)
- 👉 (Do this)
- ❤️ (Speaks to my heart)
- ➡️ (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline

PRAYER FOCUS: Foreign missionaries: anointing to preach the gospel, anointing to lead and empower national workers, family united, personal protection.

24-hour Prayer: Daily;

Daily Devotions: Monday - Friday @ 6:30 a.m. & 9:00 p.m.;

Departmental Prayer: Every Thursday (please check schedule)

Corporate Prayer: Every Friday @ 7:00 p.m. (and in person every second Friday @ 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.).

Zoom ID: 898 3191 5909 **Phone Access:** 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give
For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FYYA NIGHT

Date: Friday, May 22nd, 2026

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Location: Main Sanctuary

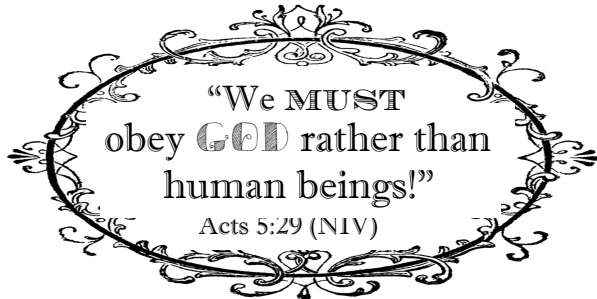
Contacts: Pastor Dan Peel, Sis. Naomi Kovach, or Sis. Shayanne Solomon

MAY SPRING CLEAN

Our annual spring cleaning is taking place on Saturday, May 23rd, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to come and take part in this wonderful time of fellowship as we refresh the church. As the saying goes: many hands make light work, so see you there!

GROUP EVANGELISM

Group Evangelism is organizing a prayer walk on Saturday, May 30th, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. All are welcomed to join! For more information, please contact Sis. Maude Chalifour.



FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.
(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)

Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.
(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)

Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)

Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)

Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled
(see ushers for information)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

MAY 3, 2026

Faith SANCTUARY

Feed Canada to Feed the World

Reaching the World Through Prayer

~ 2026 ~

Pastor:
Rev. Adrian W. Peel

"Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness."

Acts 4:29 (NIV)

1901 Jane St., Toronto, Ontario M9N 3T9
Phone: 416-244-4898

Email: mail@faithsanctuary.com

Website: www.faithsanctuary.com

Livestream: <https://faithsanctuarytoronto.online.church>