

Acts – 7/5/26

Read

Read Acts 4:23-31 and consider what lessons the Holy Spirit intends us to learn.

Examine

- What stands out about *what* the believers prayed for, given their circumstances?
- The believers cited Psalm 2 in their prayer (v.25-26). Read Psalm 2 for context. Why do you think they included this Scripture in their prayer?
- V.28 says that those who killed Jesus did “whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.” What is the significance of God’s sovereignty? Why does it matter that Jesus’ crucifixion didn’t surprise the Father?
- What does this passage teach about who God is and what he is like? How do these realities relate to discipleship?

Apply

- How does v.23 demonstrate the importance of community for followers of Jesus? What might it look like to foster this kind of dependence on other believers?
- How does belief in God’s sovereign rule over the universe shape your prayer life? How does this inform the way you follow him?
- The believers prayed for boldness to continue living on mission, rather than comfort or deliverance from the threats. How does this prayer inspire you to pray? How do you think you would live if you had this kind of Spirit-empowered boldness for the gospel?
- The text emphasizes that the disciples “continued to *speak* the word of God with boldness” (v.31). What is the importance of communicating the gospel verbally? Why is it not enough to simply live a good life and hope that will bring people to Jesus? What steps can you take to grow in the practice and discipline of *speaking* the word of God?

Pray

Take time to praise God for who He is, confess sins, and/or make requests based on this passage.