

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: To win, build and send Department of Defense leaders to live for Jesus Christ

3-7 February 2003

ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

#4 – BOLDNESS IN CONFLICT

INTRODUCTION:

- Describe a time when you perceived that you were persecuted because of your faith in Jesus.

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION:

Note: In chapter three Peter and John were on their way to the temple at the time of prayer and a cripple man from birth was being carried to the temple gate where he was taken daily to beg from those going to the temple. When he asked Peter and John for money, they gave him the power to walk. When the people who knew the beggar saw him walking and jumping and praising God they were filled with wonder and amazement. When Peter saw this, he began to speak of the Patriarchs and Moses and Jesus and the resurrection. This upset the Jewish religious leadership. (The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection)

Read Acts 4:1-7

- What disturbed the Jewish leadership about what Peter and John were saying?
- What happened to Peter and John? To the beggar? To the people?
- What did the Jewish leaders do to Peter and John on the next day?

Read Acts 4:8-14

- How was Peter able to speak so boldly? (See also 4:31) And what did he say?
- What was the reaction of the Jewish leaders to Peter and John?

Read Acts 4:15-22

- What was the religious leaders biggest concern?
- What did the religious leaders command Peter and John to do?
- How did they respond to this command? Why?
- How do you reconcile Peter's response in light of Romans 13:1-4?

APPLICATION:

- What are some ways we can share Jesus Christ in the Pentagon today?
- What is preventing you from appropriating the power of the Holy Spirit and being able to witness?
- Close your group by praying Philippians 1:19, 20 below:

For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

Successful witnessing is taking the initiative to share Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God.

Lee Bennett, Christian Embassy