

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Acts 4:23-31

Prayer that Honors God

Background

In **Acts 3**, God used Peter to heal a man who'd been crippled from birth. Summarize the reaction of the religious leaders in 4:1-22.

- Describe Peter's response in **4:8-12**, and **4:18-20**.
- If you were arrested for preaching the gospel and then released, what would you do next? What would you say? What would you tell your friends? What would you post on Facebook?

Digging In

1. **Read Acts 4:23-31**. What did Peter and John do after they were released?
2. Verses 24-30 record the disciples' prayer. What is the main theme of **vss. 24-28**?
3. Why do you think the disciples begin their prayer in this way?
4. The disciples don't get around to actually making any requests until **vss. 29-30**. What do they then ask God to do?
5. Based on their requests in vss. 29-30, what would you say was their primary concern?
6. What were the results of their prayers?



Getting Personal

- In what ways can the disciples' prayer be a pattern for our own?
- How can trust in God as our Sovereign Lord help us remain faithful in spite of opposition, keeping our focus on opportunities rather than problems?
- What steps can we take to grow in trusting God?
- How can the disciples' prayer, and the concerns reflected in their prayer, be an example to us at a time of diminishing religious freedom?
- Where do you tend to focus – on problems or opportunities? How is God speaking to you through this passage?

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