

# R E A D: Acts 5:17-32

Main Idea: As word spread about the apostles doing miracles and teaching that Jesus was the Christ, it wasn't long until they are arrested by the jealous Sadducees in power. During the night an angel rescues them from prison and they continue to teach about Jesus. When questioned again, their defense is simple, "We must obey God rather than men."

#### DISCUSS

**Children:** Do you think if you were arrested for coming to church you would be able to stand up to the arresting officer and say the same? We live in a free society so we'll probably never know what we would do. The apostles had worse things done to them during the time they preached and they did not stop preaching as long as they were alive.

**Teen**: Can anything or anyone stop the Lord, or his Word? Have you encountered times others did not want you to talk about Jesus? If so, what was your response when it happened? Who must we obey? What help do we receive when we obey?

Adult: Have you gone to court? Were you on the jury or were you the defendant? Did you testify? The apostles had escaped from jail, immediately went back to the thing that got them put into prison, and then were brought before the rulers who imprisoned them. When they were accused, Peter uses the opportunity to preach a mini sermon to these religious leaders. What do you think about Peter's boldness or his change from the man who denied Jesus to this leader in the church? What made the difference?

		•							
					_				7

PRΔY

#### MEMORIZE

Acts 4:12 (ESV)

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."





# R E A D: Acts 5:33-42

Main Idea: The Sadducees upon hearing the apostle's bold testimony wanted to kill them. But Gamaliel reasons with them to have patience in the matter. Before they released them, they beat them and told them to quit speaking about Jesus. The apostles show a great example to us in their response. They rejoiced. They celebrated that they were counted worthy to suffer for Christ's name.

### DISCUSS

**Children:** Suffering with an attitude of thanksgiving. That sounds a little crazy to us. These apostles were beaten, scolded, people were plotting their deaths, and yet they rejoiced because they were suffering in honor of Jesus. They were thankful to be used by God.

**Teen**: Can good come from, or out of, suffering? How were the apostles able to rejoice through the pain? Are you able to see God working through difficult situations in your life? Are you able to lift up praises to our Lord in such times? Why or why not?

**Adult**: Verse 42 gives an example of the tenacity of the apostles. When — every day, Where — in the temple, from house-to-house, What — continued, teaching and preaching Jesus. Even after being told to stop speaking of Jesus. We all know someone who has been added to the church, but then became unfaithful. If they had modeled themselves after this verse, do you think they would have a different relationship to the Lord today? Now, let's look at our own lives. What are we doing, when and where? Are we Sunday only Christians? Are we regular attenders, but we don't do more than attend? Is there something in your life you need to change?

PRAY											

#### MEMORIZE

Acts 4:12 (ESV)

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven

given among men by which we must be saved."

