

# Shake the Room — When the Church Prays, God Moves

Acts 4:23–31

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## 1. The Church Turns to God Together Acts 4:23–24

- When pressure hit, their first response was prayer
- Not panic, not strategy—prayer
- They prayed together (unity, dependence, focus)
- This wasn't a panic prayer—it was a practiced one
- They were already devoted to prayer (Acts 2:42)

 Acts 4:24 “Master, you are the one who made the heaven, the earth, and the sea...”

- They began by acknowledging God as **Master (Sovereign)**
- They didn't start with their problem—they started with God's power

 Reflection: What do I run to first when pressure hits?

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## 2. Prayer Is Our First Response, Not Our Last Resort

- We all have something we run to in hard moments
- Control, comfort, distraction, isolation...
- The early church ran to God

 Prayer was their “go-to”  Prayer was their dependence

 Acts 2:42 “They devoted themselves... to prayer.”

 Reflection: What does my prayer life reveal about what I truly depend on?

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## 3. The Church Understands the Moment Acts 4:25–28

- Opposition is not surprising—it is expected
- Following Jesus will put us at odds with the world
- This is not just physical—it is **spiritual**

 John 15:18 “If the world hates you, understand that it hated me before it hated you.”

 2 Timothy 3:12 “All who want to live a godly life... will be persecuted.”

 Ephesians 6:12 “Our struggle is not against flesh and blood...”

 Opposition doesn't mean God isn't working—  It often means He is

 Reflection: How do I respond when following Jesus becomes difficult?

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## 4. The Church Prays for Boldness, Not Comfort Acts 4:29–30

- They didn't pray for safety or ease
- They prayed for **boldness**
- They asked God for more opportunities

- 📖 Acts 4:29 "Grant that your servants may speak your word with all boldness..."
- 📖 Matthew 6:10 "Your kingdom come. Your will be done..."
- 📖 James 4:3 "You ask... because you ask with wrong motives..."
- 📖 Luke 9:23 "Deny yourself... take up your cross..."

👉 Bold prayers come from surrendered lives

💬 Reflection: Am I praying for comfort—or for God to use me?

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## 5. God Shakes the Room 📖 Acts 4:31

- God responds when His people pray
- The room was shaken—but more importantly... 👉 **the people were changed**

### When God moves:

- He shakes our comfort
- He shakes our silence
- He shakes our priorities

📖 Acts 4:31 "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God boldly."

👉 God doesn't always remove the pressure— 👉 He gives us power in it

💬 Reflection: What is God trying to shake in my life?

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## Corporate Prayer (Pray Together)

\*\*God, You are our Master—our Sovereign King.

You are over all things, and nothing is outside of Your control.

Forgive us for the moments we've chosen comfort over calling, silence over obedience, and fear over faith.

God, we don't want to be a people who play it safe— we want to be a people who are surrendered.

Fill us again with Your Spirit. Give us courage where we feel afraid.

Give us boldness where we've been silent. Give us faith to step into the moments You've placed in front of us.

God, use our lives. Use our words. Use this church.

Not for our name—but for Yours. Not for our comfort—but for Your Kingdom. God... make us bold.

In Jesus' name, Amen.\*\*

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