

## **A Church That Pleases God—3**

### **What You're Missing by Staying Quiet**

**Are you bold about your faith in Jesus?**

**Acts 1: God promises to send the Holy Spirit in power, unleashing an unshakable boldness to spread the gospel of Jesus.**

**Acts 2: The Holy Spirit unites believers into a Church boldly devoted to God's Word, God's people, and God's mission.**

**Acts 4: Under threats, the Church prays for boldness; God fills them with power and releases radical generosity.**

**Acts 5: Believers choose obedience over safety; the disciples preach Christ boldly in the face of suffering and persecution.**

**Acts 17: Paul boldly preaches Jesus in hostile cultures, reasoning publicly without compromising the gospel.**

**Acts 28: Even in chains, Paul proclaims the gospel with boldness and without hindrance.**

**Boldness isn't what the Church does when it feels strong; it's what the Church does when it knows Jesus.**

*The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. ...*

Acts 4:13 NLT

**How bold are you about your faith?**

**1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10**

**Boldness isn't a personality trait; it's the overflow of a real relationship with Jesus.**

**ἰδιῶται  
idiotai**

**ordinary, untrained, with no credentials,  
no religious status, and outside the traditional system**

*... they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. Acts 4:13 NIV*

**More Time With Jesus**

**Boldness increases**

**Spiritual impact intensifies**

**Spiritual hunger grows**

**Less Time With Jesus**

**Boldness decreases**

**Spiritual impact diminishes**

**Drift from Jesus**

*"And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word." Acts 4:29 NLT*

**A church that pleases God doesn't ask God to make life easier;  
we ask God to make us bolder.**

*“And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word.”<sup>30</sup> Stretch out your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”<sup>31</sup> After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.*

Acts 4:29-31 NLT

## **Boldness almost always triggers spiritual opposition.**

*[The religious leaders] arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail.* Acts 5:18 NIV

*They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail.<sup>19</sup> But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out.* Acts 5:18-19 NIV

*“Go, stand in the temple courts,” he said, “and tell the people all about this new life.”<sup>21</sup> At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. ...*

Acts 5:20-21 NIV

**Is your faith strong enough to believe in Jesus, but too timid to be bold for Him?**

## **TALK IT OVER**

Read **Acts 4:13 NLT**. Have you ever been amazed by someone’s boldness? How did that experience impact your faith journey?

On a scale of 1-10, how bold are you about your faith? How does your current relationship with Jesus impact your answer?

Share openly about your relationship with Jesus. Are there areas of your life where you're too timid to be bold for Him? What bold steps of faith will you take this week?

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