

# Ekklesia part 3: Boldness in Loving & Living

Pastor Rick – 5/8/22

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Definition of boldness: “A willingness to take risks and act innovatively in confidence and courage.”

*Acts 4:29*

Today we are going to learn that being blessed comes with a responsibility and hopefully I will give you a few practical ways to do this.

Boldness in loving and living!

*Acts 4:32-35*

Being blessed comes with responsibility!

*Acts 5:12-20*

*Acts 5:27-39*

*Acts 5:38*

*Implication: if this is just another movement with people who have some radical new idea, it's going to fail, because Rome won't let it succeed.*

*Acts 5:39*

The only thing that could overcome the power and control of Rome in this region of the world is “God.”

*Acts 5:40*

*Acts 5:41-42*

- 1) Boldness is deciding to do or say something when it would be easier to do or say nothing.
- 2) Bold loving/living is taking advantage of the opportunities that present themselves.

*John 3:16*

## **PRAYER from last week**

*God, would you please stretch out your hand and do something through me in my community, among my unbelieving friends, among my anti-church friends, among my friends that have been burned by religion and have every reason in the world . . . God, would you be willing to stretch out your hand and do something unusual? Not for my benefit, not in the church, but for the benefit of those who don't believe.*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Take turns reading Acts 4 and 5 together. Share your insights and observations.
2. Were you able to make time to pray this week? How did you see a change in your focus and what you prayed about?
3. Pastor Rick said that boldness is deciding to do or say something when it would be easier to do or say nothing. Where do you need a measure of boldness in your life? How can you step into that arena?
4. What might God be asking you to apply from this message to your life this week?

*Choose a Scripture for your small group to use to pray for different needs:*

For those yet to believe

- Isaiah 55:6-8;
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-5;
- Ephesians 5:14-18;
- Psalm 107 (Pray for the different types of people described.)

For believers

- Ephesians 1:17-19;
- Ephesians 3:14-19;
- Colossians 1:9-14;
- 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13;
- 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12;
- 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17
- For revival, use Isaiah's cry for revival in Isaiah 64:1-5.
- For spiritual power, use the early disciples' prayer in Acts 4:29-31

More ideas: <https://www.toolsformentoring.com/resources/small-group-helps/prayer-ideas.php>