



# it starts with one

## IT STARTS WITH ONE, PART 6: EXTRAORDINARY PRAYER

Prayer can't be reduced to a last minute thing to do when all else fails. Communicating to God through extraordinary prayer changes everything!

**BIG IDEA:** God honors extraordinary prayers because extraordinary prayers honor God.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What's the "craziest" prayer that you've ever prayed? What happened as a result of that prayer?
2. With your Bible or Bible App, read Acts 4:8-12;19.

*Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of our people, 9 are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? 10 Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene,[a] the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. 11 For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says, 'The stone that you builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.' "There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." But Peter and John replied, "Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him? 20 We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard."*

*Acts 4:8-12;19 (NLT)*

3. What is your reaction to the type of boldness Peter displayed? If you were to suddenly become "bold" for Christ, what about you would change?
4. With your Bible or Bible App, read Acts 4:8-12;19.

*When they heard the report, all the believers lifted their voices together in prayer to God: "O Sovereign Lord, Creator of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them— 25 you spoke long ago by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor David, your servant, saying, 'Why were the nations so angry? Why did they waste their time with futile plans? The kings of the earth prepared for battle; the rulers gathered together against the Lord and against his Messiah.' "In fact, this has happened here in this very city! For Herod Antipas, Pontius Pilate the governor, the Gentiles, and the people of Israel were all united against Jesus, your holy servant, whom you anointed. But everything they did was determined beforehand according to your will. 29 And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word. 30 Stretch out your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus."*

*Acts 4:24-30 (NLT)*

5. The prayer in this passage does not ask for vindication. Instead it asks for holy boldness and more signs and wonders in the name of Jesus Christ. Which is more normative in your life: prayer for vindication or prayer for holy boldness as witnesses of Christ?
6. During the message Carlo said, "Extraordinary prayer expects to be answered." How do we balance

expectation with humility and surrender during prayer?

7. As evidenced by the suffering evidenced in this passage, it is clear that following Christ is risky and personal safety is not guaranteed (Christ was crucified). How have you suffered for Christ?

## WHAT WILL YOU DO?

If you could name one ministry effort your small group might try that would require a different level of holy boldness, what would it be? How and when might you begin such an effort?

## CHANGING YOUR MIND

*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. All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great blessing was upon them all. There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need.*

*- Acts 4:31-35*