



# WEDNESDAY EVENING

## AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

**Title:** Early Church: Bold Prayer

**Passage:** Acts 4

**Speaker:** Bro. Trevor Hampton

**Introduction:** Prayer reveals what we truly believe about God. If we believe God is sovereign and powerful, our prayers will reflect it. The early church faced opposition, threats, and uncertainty, yet instead of retreating in fear, they prayed with boldness and confidence in God. The question for us tonight is simple: Does the word bold accurately describe your prayer life?

### I. Recognize God's Sovereignty (Verses 23-29)

After healing a man who had been lame from birth, Peter and John used the opportunity to boldly preach Christ to the crowd.

Though they were arrested, questioned, and threatened for preaching in Jesus' name, they returned to the church and prayed for even greater boldness to continue God's work.

If we want to be bold in our prayers, we must relinquish all control and give it to God.

God is in control! He is powerful! He is the Creator!

God can heal that person, save that person, He can provide, He can restore that relationship, He can forgive sin! If God had a solution for all of our sins, surely he has one for all of our stresses.

### II. Rely on God's Strength (Verses 30-31)



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God answered the early church's prayer almost immediately, filling the believers with His Spirit and giving ordinary Christians boldness to speak His Word.

Because the church relied on God's strength rather than their own abilities, God continued to work powerfully through them and used them to impact countless lives.

We can't have backup answers to our own prayers.

God is not interested in your strengths; He wants to use your weaknesses so you have to rely on Him.

We need to pray for requests that only God can answer.

**Conclusion:** The early church faced opposition and uncertainty, yet they chose to trust God and pray boldly. They understood that God was in control and that His power was greater than their circumstances. May we stop praying prayers we can accomplish ourselves and start praying prayers that require God to work. May we boldly ask God to save souls, restore lives, raise up laborers, and do what only He can do. Bold Christians are made through bold prayer.