



@STPAULPEORIA



JULY - SEPTEMBER

# Week 3: Pray Bold Prayers

Acts 4:23-31

Quarter 3 (July - September): Live Empowered

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**The Holy Spirit is the promised gift for every believer**

# **ACTS 4:23–31 (CSB)**

**<sup>23</sup> After they were released, they went to their own people and reported everything the chief priests and the elders had said to them. <sup>24</sup> When they heard this, they raised their voices together to God and said,**

# **ACTS 4:23–31 (CSB)**

**“Master, you are the one who made the heaven, the earth, and the sea, and everything in them. <sup>25</sup> You said through the Holy Spirit, by the mouth of our father David your servant:**

# **ACTS 4:23–31 (CSB)**

**Why do the Gentiles rage  
and the peoples plot futile things?  
<sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth take their stand  
and the rulers assemble together  
against the Lord and against his Messiah.**

# **ACTS 4:23–31 (CSB)**

**<sup>27</sup>“For, in fact, in this city both Herod and Pontius Pilate,  
with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, assembled  
together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you  
anointed, <sup>28</sup>to do whatever your hand and your will had  
predestined to take place.**

# **ACTS 4:23–31 (CSB)**

**<sup>29</sup> And now, Lord, consider their threats, and grant that your servants may speak your word with all boldness, <sup>30</sup> while you stretch out your hand for healing, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”**

## **ACTS 4:23–31 (CSB)**

**<sup>31</sup> When they had prayed, the place where they were assembled was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God boldly.**



## **ACTS 4:12 (CSB)**

**“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved.”**

**Prayer is how we align with the Spirit who empowers us  
to live the life we've been called to.**

**If we're going to experience the Spirit not just occasionally, but consistently, it begins with how we pray.**



# **(1) PRAYER AS A RELATIONAL POSTURE**

## **(vv. 23–28)**

# **ACTS 4:23–25 (CSB)**

**<sup>23</sup> After they were released, they went to their own people and reported everything the chief priests and the elders had said to them. <sup>24</sup> When they heard this, they raised their voices together to God and said,**

## **ACTS 4:23–25 (CSB)**

**“Master, you are the one who made the heaven, the earth, and the sea, and everything in them. <sup>25</sup> You said through the Holy Spirit, by the mouth of our father David your servant:**



**Prayer is not a panic button.  
It's an alignment with God's reality.**

**Begin prayers by acknowledging who God is, what He  
has already said (through Scripture), and what He has  
already done (through Jesus)**

**(2) PRAYER AS A CRY TO BE USED (not to use God)**  
**(vv. 29-30)**



# **ACTS 4:29–30 (CSB)**

**<sup>29</sup> And now, Lord, consider their threats, and grant that your servants may speak your word with all boldness, <sup>30</sup> while you stretch out your hand for healing, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”**

**If we don't understand who He is, we'll attempt to  
misuse what He does.**

## **ACTS 8:18-21 (CSB)**

**'When Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, saying, "Give me this power also so that anyone I lay hands on may receive the Holy Spirit."**



## **ACTS 8:18-21 (CSB)**

**But Peter told him, “May your silver be destroyed with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! You have no part or share in this matter, because your heart is not right before God.**

# **(3) PRAYER AS AN EMBRACE OF KINGDOM**

## **MISSION, NOT AN ESCAPE**

**Acts 2:29-31**

# **ACTS 4:29–30 (CSB)**

**<sup>29</sup> And now, Lord, consider their threats, and grant that your servants may speak your word with all boldness, <sup>30</sup> while you stretch out your hand for healing, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”**

**Keep showing up with integrity, even though you're  
not sure how it'll be received (that's Spirit-led).  
Choose peace over a payback, truth over trend,  
faith over fear.**



**So what if we became that kind of church?**

**What if you became that kind of follower?**

**What if this week we prayed,**

**“Spirit, I surrender. Use me.”**





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