

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 10-19-25
Christianity 103 – Message 4 Part 2
Being a witness may take you to interesting places.

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) The Book of Acts reminds us of some important truths.
 - a) Faith in Jesus Christ is real and life changing.
 - b) The Church is alive.
 - c) Believers are growing and being a witness.
 - d) The enemy is at work.
- 2) Do we believe that what Jesus has done for us and desires to do through us is worth giving our lives for?
- 3) When you follow the Spirit of God, things happen.
- 4) Be sure you know the evidence. II Timothy 2:15
- 5) There is a correlation between our faith growing as our knowledge, understanding and application of the Word grows.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) Peter has caused a stir by speaking the truth.
- 2) Think about the battle in Peter's mind at this moment.

2. It's a new day. Acts 4:5-8

a. Examination time. Verses 5-6

- 1) This has brought out some specific people.
- 2) Can you feel the tension between Peter, John and these leaders?
- 3) Verse 7 –
 - a) What is the point of this inquiry by the council?
 - b) They want to know – “by what power, or by what name have ye done this?”

b. Answer time. Verses 8-10

- 1) Verse 8 –
 - a) Peter is responding to the leading of the Holy Spirit as he opens his mouth.
 - b) This is an act of faith, right?
 - c) Could you see yourself doing this?

3. The hearts of those on this council get confronted. Acts 4:8-12

a. Listen to what the Spirit of God gave him to say. Verse 8

- 1) “Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel”

b. Are you talking about the lame man?

- 1) Verse 9 –

c. It was Jesus!

- 1) Verse 10 –

- a) “whom ye crucified” –
- b) “whom God raised from the dead” –
- c) “him” –
- d) “does this man stand before you whole” –

- 2) The problem here –

- a) To them, Jesus was dead.

b) This lame man standing in front of them is EVIDENCE!

d. Application:

- 1) Every person needs to consider the evidence of scripture.
- 2) Sometimes professing Christians reject the evidence that is right in front of them.
- 3) The leaders rejected the work and leading of the Holy Spirit, and Christians can just as easily be guilty of the same thing.
- 4) II Peter 1:3-4 –

e. Application:

- 1) The flesh is really dangerous.
- 2) Galatians 5:17 –
- 3) What our flesh wants is against what God's Spirit wants, and what God's Spirit wants is against what we in our flesh want.
 - a) The flesh is dangerous because it always opposes what God wants.
- 4) What should Peter do?

4. The "stone". Acts 4:11-13

a. What does this mean?

- 1) Verse 11 –
- 2) Peter spoke of another evidence of scripture.
 - a) Peter refers to Jesus as "the stone" which was rejected by them.
 - b) What did this mean?

b. Evidence demands a verdict. Acts 4:12

- 1) Verse 12 – Evidence that demands a decision.
- 2) Scripture gives us a unique look into the thoughts of these religious leaders.
 - a) Verse 13 –
 - b) They knew by their testimony and by listening that these men had been with Jesus.

5. Today's Take Away:

- a. Verse 12 is still true today. Evidence is important and demands a verdict.
- b. Are you practicing each day responding to the leading of the Holy Spirit in obedience?
- c. Is your faith growing – knowledge, understanding and application of God's Word?
- d. Do you think anyone notices that you walk with Jesus each day?