

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 10-12-25
Christianity 103 – Message 4 Part 1
Being a witness may take you to interesting places.

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) What do people believe about Jesus?
 - a) We have a responsibility to help people get the story right, to help them understand.
 - b) Equip you for what? Ephesians 4:12
 - c) We are seeking to point people to Jesus.
- 2) Jesus was not a stranger to those listening to Peter.
 - a) Verse 21 – Jesus ascended but He is coming again.
 - b) Verse 22 – Moses told them God would send the Prophet.
 - c) Verse 23 – Reality check.
 - d) Verse 24 – The prophets foretold of these days of Jesus' life.
 - e) Verse 25 – They were the children of the prophets.
 - f) Verse 26 – God sent His Son to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) Keep the events of the previous chapter in mind.
- 2) "Being a witness may take you to some interesting places."

2. Don't let fear keep you silent with the Gospel.

a. Do you remember Jesus' words back in Acts 1:8?

- 1) Were they just words or a command?
 - a) Be a Witness!
- 2) Is it hard to be a witness?
 - a) These fears are real but so is the command and the promise of the Holy Spirit to enable you.
- 3) I hope moving forward in this study brings out a boldness for Jesus in each one of us.
 - a) Remember the goal?

b. A story of redemption and transformation.

- 1) Dr. Sa'eed.

c. Acts does remind us of some important things.

- 1) Faith in Jesus Christ is real and life changing.
- 2) The Church is alive and has been given a mission.
- 3) Those who put their faith in Christ –
- 4) The book of Acts exposes the works of the enemy –
- 5) This isn't a sad story but one of triumph, of power, of courage –

3. Celebration and confrontation. Acts 4:1-4

a. What can happen when you walk in the Spirit?

- 1) Peter told them the truth.

b. We have the priest, captain of the temple and the Sadducees. Verse 1

- 1) Why are they here?
 - a) "grieved" – troubled, displeased, offended or pained.
- 2) Make sure you understand what they are doing.
 - a) This seems unfair, doesn't it?
- 3) Application – they refused to examine the evidence.
 - a) What is truth? John 18:37 –
- 4) II Timothy 2:15 – have you ever really studied this verse? Words matter!

- a) “**Study** (make haste) to shew thyself **approved** (one who is of tried faith and integrity) unto God, a **workman** (one who labors to propagate and promote Christianity among men) that needeth not to be **ashamed**, (hating, no cause to be ashamed) rightly **dividing** (making straight cuts, handle aright) the word of truth.”
- 5) Romans 10:17 – “faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.”
 - a) What is the principle here?
- c. Jesus explained this before.
 - 1) Matthew 10:16-20 –
 - a) Key – responding to the Spirit in obedience.
 - 2) Luke 21:12-15 –
 - a) Key – responding to the Spirit in obedience.
 - b) We are supposed to be ready for that time when what you believe and how you live will be called into question.
 - 3) Application –
 - a) “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.” Jim Elliot.
 - 4) Application from verse 3-4.
 - a) Peter is being led off to prison, and he looks back over his shoulder and sees once again the thousands who have believed the truth.
 - b) Question – do you think he is ok with what is happening to him?
- 4. Today’s Take Away:
 - a. Don’t let fear keep you from sharing the Gospel.
 - b. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.
 - c. Ready to be a voice of truth?