

Week 6

Acts 5:12-42

Pray

Read: Acts 5:12-16

1. In verses 12-16, Luke gives us the third summary (cf. Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35) about the impact of the Apostle's ministry. What is the effect of their "signs and wonders"?

Read: Acts 5:17-26

2. In verses 17-26, Luke records the imprisonment and release of the Apostles. What does this scene reveal about:

- The Religious Leaders?
- The Temple Guards?
- The Apostles?
- The Lord?

>> Application & Reflection: In this scene, Luke records a divine intervention. God is clearly behind this new gospel movement, sustaining its life and growth, even if Jerusalem's religious leaders aren't. How might this scene encourage us individually and as a church when we face trials and challenges?

Read: Acts 5:27-42

3. In verses 27-32, Luke details the Apostles' trial before the Sanhedrin. How do the Apostles respond to the questions and authority of the religious leaders? What is the Apostles' message?

>> Application & Reflection: In this scene, Luke shows us the obedience of the Apostles to God above all. Consider areas in your life where you may be tempted to prioritize human authority over God's commands. Where can you cultivate a greater commitment to obedience to God, even when it may lead to opposition or criticism?

4. In verses 33-40, Luke details the first speech in Acts from someone who is not a disciple, a Pharisee named Gamaliel. What is Gamaliel's caution to the Sanhedrin? And what is Gamaliel's test for the divine-authenticity of this new Christian movement?

>> Application & Reflection: In this scene, Luke shows us the vibrancy of the Apostle's ministry. People are being healed and converted. Crowds are flocking to hear the gospel. Prison doors are being miraculously opened. Even an enemy of the gospel suggests that this movement might have some staying power. How can remembering these instances strengthen our faith as we live in the modern era?

5. In verses 41-42, the Apostles leave the Sanhedrin after being ordered "not to speak in the name of Jesus". What is the Apostles' response?

>> Application & Reflection: In this scene, Luke shows us the Apostles' fearless proclamation of the gospel. Share the names of people who you are/would like to be sharing the gospel with. Then, talk about the fears and insecurities you might face and how you can overcome them. Then, pray for yourselves and those people.

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