

Small Group Questions

Week of Sunday, January 21st, 2024

Launch

When you were a kid, what is something you were really afraid of?

Part 1) The Christian Life is not a Safe Life - Read Acts 5:21-26

1. Observe - Who was perplexed and why? Why were the officers afraid?
2. Discuss - In this account, being obedient meant doing the unsafe thing. How would you describe the way our culture values or relates to safety? Do you believe it is prioritized well? Too much? Too little?
3. Discuss - Read John 15:19-20 and 2 Timothy 3:12. What kinds of opposition do these passages say a faithful Christian can expect? Why do you think many in the church today wouldn't find this to be their own experience?
4. Respond - Is there an area of your life where comfort has become too much of a priority? What uncomfortable place or person might the Holy Spirit be prompting you to engage?

Part 2) When God Calls... We Don't Walk Away and We Don't

Water Down - Read Acts 5:27-32

1. Observe - Why were the apostles so bold?
2. Discuss - Can you think of a circumstance in which a Christian would feel prompted to engage/share/speak truth...but be more comfortable simply leaving it alone? How do you think people can overcome this fear?
3. Discuss - The apostles spoke courageously to the religious leaders and gave it to them straight. What areas of the faith do you think Christians are most tempted to "water down" so that they will be more palatable for culture? How would you encourage someone finding themselves in that kind of situation?

4. Respond - Reflect on the apostles bravery and confidence in the Lord to stay put and stay on message. In what area of your life would you ask God to give you more boldness to do the same?

Part 3) You Can't Get in God's Way - Read Acts 5:33-42

1. Observe - Who offers up the advice on how to proceed and what is the core of his message?
2. Discuss - What are your thoughts on his argument? Is it fair? Do you personally find it convincing? Why or why not?
3. Discuss - For all the potential discomfort and danger it might bring, what is it that makes the Gospel so unstoppable?
4. Respond - If God's Gospel really is unstoppable, what is it keeping you from stepping out in faith as the apostles did?