

What attitude did the disciples have regarding this persecution – 5:41?

Despite the rulers' commands, what did the apostles do – 5:42?

What should we learn from the apostle's conduct as they faced persecution?

#### PRAYER

Pray for one another, that we would continue to be transformed by the Holy Spirit.

Pray that we would have courage and wisdom, as we seek to be Christ's witnesses.



# Acts: Go

## Growth Group Study Guide

### Week 3

### “A Life of Courage”

### 31 October 2021

### Acts 5: 17-42

#### Series Overview:

The Book of Acts is the second part of the writing from Luke (the first part was the Gospel of Luke). Acts is a dynamic book detailing the beginning of Christ's Church, as the good news of Jesus Christ spread from 120 ordinary people, to the worldwide movement we see today. In Matthew 28: 18-20, we read how Jesus commissioned His followers to “Go”, and in the book of Acts we see the outworking of that commission. As we spend a few weeks digesting the stories and truths from Acts, our desire and prayer is that we will discover afresh, the hope, passion and dynamic of a small group of people, transformed by the love of Christ and empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit to witness to God's great plan for all people.

## Overview:

For a great interactive overview of the book of Acts visit [www.bibleproject.com](http://www.bibleproject.com)

(Click “Watch”, then “Book overviews”, then “New Testament”, then select “Acts”)

### Read Acts 5: 17-42

Prior to this passage, the disciples had performed many miracles, and large crowds were following them. With this in mind, who caused the apostles to be arrested again, and what was their motive – 5:17,18?

How were the apostles released, and what were they told to do – 5:19,20? (Think: How does this compare to what the rulers had ordered them to do?)

What did the apostles do and where did they do it – 5:21? (Think: How does this demonstrate the apostles’ courage and conviction?)

When the council sent for the apostles in prison, what did they find – 5:22,23?

What effect did this have on the rulers, and where did they locate the apostles – 5:24,25? (Think: What lesson should they have learned from this?)

What complaint did the high priest raise – 5:27,28? (Think: Have we accomplished in our day what the apostles did? How would we have reacted in their place?)

How did Peter respond? – 5:29? What can we learn from Peter’s statement? Can this statement be abused?

Who besides the apostles bore witness that these things were true – 5:32? (Think: Note the continued emphasis on witnesses, and explain how the Holy Spirit gave witness.)

What was the council’s initial reaction to Peter’s speech – 5:33? (Think: Does this prove Peter did wrong? Are we wrong just because people get angry at what we teach?) Compare 5:33 to 2:37, and describe the different audience reactions.

What conclusion is stated in 5:38? (Think: Is this conclusion valid? Should we follow this advice regarding false doctrine? Compare other verses about dealing with false doctrine.)

What conclusion is stated in 5:39? (Think: Is this the best advice? If a doctrine is from God, besides not opposing it, what should we do?)

What did the council finally do with the apostles – 5:40? (Think: How did this differ from the first hearing before the council?)