

JESUS AT THE CORE

LOVING THEIR NEW LIFE

JOY FILLED COMMUNITIES

EVERY OPPORTUNITY

SUMMER
2023

SUNDAYS
9am & 10:30am
9am LIVE

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WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE CHURCH IN ACTS.

1 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, 2 until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3 He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appealing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but

to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." The Ascension 6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, "Men of Galilee,

MAP OF THE WORLD



STANDING LIKE JESUS

ACTS 4:1-31^H

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WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE CHURCH IN ACTS.

**The unstoppable Church lives bravely, putting the promotion of
Our Savior as our highest priority, including when our
promotion faces opposition.**

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Acts 4:1-31

¹ And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them,
² greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³ And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴ But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. ⁵ On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶ with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷ And when they had set them

Acts 4:1-31

in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?”⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders,⁹ if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed,¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well.¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other

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Acts 4:1-31

name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”¹³ Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.¹⁴ But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.¹⁵ But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another,¹⁶ saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it.¹⁷ But in order that it may spread no further among

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Acts 4:1-31

the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.”¹⁸ So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge,²⁰ for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”²¹ And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened.²² For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

Acts 4:1-31

²³ When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, ²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, “‘Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? ²⁶ The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’ — ²⁷ for truly there were gathered together against

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Acts 4:1-31

your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

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The unstoppable Church is always moving forward.

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The unstoppable Church is always moving forward.

- **God is calling people to Himself.**

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The unstoppable Church is always moving forward.

- God is calling people to Himself.
- **The Spirit is equipping us to participate in the experience.**

The unstoppable Church is always moving forward.

- God is calling people to Himself.
- The Spirit is equipping us to participate in the experience.
- **We can't help but share our greatest passion.**

Acts 4:1-22

the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.”¹⁸ So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, **“Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge,²⁰ for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”**²¹ And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened.²² For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

The unstoppable Church is always moving forward.

The opposition to the unstoppable Church is always there.

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The opposition to the unstoppable Church is always there.

- **We live in a broken world**

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The opposition to the unstoppable Church is always there.

- We live in a broken world
- **Other views live alongside us**

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Acts 4:1-22

the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.”¹⁸ So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, **“Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge,²⁰ for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”**²¹ And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened.²² For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

**Our response to opposition tells us about
what really matters to us.**

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The unstoppable Church is always moving forward.

The opposition to the unstoppable Church is always there.

The unstoppable Church stands lovingly for Jesus.

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The unstoppable Church stands lovingly for Jesus.

- **We live knowing there will be opposition.**

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The unstoppable Church stands lovingly for Jesus.

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
 - **OT had it**
 - **Jesus had it**
 - **Now in front of us**

Acts 4:23-31

²³ When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, ²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, “Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? ²⁶ The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’ — ²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered together against

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Acts 4:23-31

your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

The unstoppable Church stands lovingly for Jesus.

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
 - **OT had it**
 - **Jesus had it**
 - **Now in front of us**

The unstoppable Church stands lovingly for Jesus.

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- **We stand like Jesus**

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The unstoppable Church stands lovingly for Jesus.

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- We stand like Jesus
 - **Pray for boldness to make the gospel preeminent**

Acts 4:23-31

²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and **grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,** ³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

The unstoppable Church stands lovingly for Jesus.

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- We stand like Jesus
 - Pray for boldness to make the gospel preeminent
 - **Pray for Jesus to spiritually heal everyone**

Acts 4:23-31

²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and **grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,** ³⁰ while you **stretch out your hand to heal,** and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

The unstoppable Church stands lovingly for Jesus.

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- We stand like Jesus
 - Pray for boldness to make the gospel preeminent
 - Pray for Jesus to spiritually heal everyone
 - **Believe God is working**

Acts 4:23-31

²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. ²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, ³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

1 Peter 2:13-17

¹³ Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴ or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. ¹⁵ **For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.** ¹⁶ Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

The unstoppable Church stands lovingly for Jesus.

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- We stand like Jesus.
 - Pray for boldness to make the gospel preeminent
 - Pray for Jesus to spiritually heal everyone
 - Believe God is working
 - **We stand with love**

Luke 6:27-31

²⁷ “But I say to you who hear, **Love your enemies**, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. ³¹ And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

No matter the cost, we will stand

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No matter the cost, we will stand

- if authorities demand...

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No matter the cost, we will stand

- if authorities demand...
 - **we pledge our highest allegiance to anyone other than God**

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No matter the cost, we will stand

- if authorities demand...
 - we pledge our highest allegiance to anyone other than God
 - **we participate in the defamation and harm of others**

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No matter the cost, we will stand

- if authorities demand...
 - we pledge our highest allegiance to anyone other than God
 - we participate in the defamation and harm of others
 - **we modify the content of the gospel**

No matter the cost, we will stand

- if authorities demand...
 - we pledge our highest allegiance to anyone other than God
 - we participate in the defamation and harm of others
 - we modify the content of the gospel
 - **we stop sharing Jesus**

Until then... (and even then)

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- We stand like Jesus.

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Until then... (and even then)

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- We stand like Jesus.
 - **Boldly, with eyes on God's glory**

Until then... (and even then)

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- We stand like Jesus.
 - Boldly, with eyes on God's glory
 - **With a heart for the lost**

Until then... (and even then)

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- We stand like Jesus.
 - Boldly, with eyes on God's glory
 - With a heart for the lost
 - **With confidence that God wins**

Until then... (and even then)

- We live knowing there will be opposition.
- We stand like Jesus.
 - Boldly, with eyes on God's glory
 - With a heart for the lost
 - With confidence that God wins
 - **With the same love we have been given**

This week:

- Mon - Pray for those who do not have the same freedom
- Tues - Pray for those who oppose the gospel
- Wed - To be prepared for opposition
- Thurs - Pray to be bold for the gospel
- Fri - To stand lovingly like Jesus
- Sat – Pray Acts 4:24-30