

Sermon Series: Acts The Church on Fire

Pastor Jason L. Wilder

Acts 5:12-42 Obey God Rather than Men

***If there is enough evidence to believe in God, there is enough evidence to have faith in Him.**

=>We do things in life that have some danger to them. We must learn to trust someone else when we do that (for the first time). Parachute, surf, hunt, fish. The empty cross/tomb are for believers.

I. Evidence of God Working (5:12-16)

- A. Apostles teaching and healing in Solomon's portico
- B. Changed lives (physically and spiritually)
- C. People from towns all around
- D. Evidence of God's presence and working

II. Opposition to God's Work (5:17-26)

- A. Sadducees filled with jealousy
- B. Put apostles in public prison
- C. Angel releases them to continue to preach and teach the people
- D. Brought back in fear of the people
- E. Fear of the people but not God
- F. =>Man lets roommate die so he can get the better window (brick wall)

III. Apostles' Response (5:27-32)

- A. "We must obey God rather than men."
- B. Because "we are witnesses"
 - 1. Christ, empty tomb, the Holy Spirit
 - 2. This led to their faith
 - 3. Faith led to their service (following)

IV. God is Sovereign (5:33-42)

- A. Gamaliel speaks wisdom
- B. Time will tell that God does not fail
- C. Apostles beaten and released
- D. Continue to be faithful in service

V. Live It Out

- A. Who is your faith based upon? (Not “what”)
- B. Who or what challenges your faith? (Usually fear or jealousy)
- C. Choose faith in God (this week)

VI. Jim Elliot (1927-1956)

- A. Missionary in Ecuador
- B. One of five missionaries killed (Nate Saint, Pete Fleming, Ed McCully, and Roger Youderian)
- C. “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”
(Written Oct. 28, 1949)