

# Pray Like God is Listening

Acts 4:23-31

March 24, 2019

*In Acts, believers meet as a **community** to seek God's will; turn to **Scripture** to understand what is happening to them; then, take the next step in order to move forward in **mission**.*

1. Find friends who will pray **with** you (23-24a)
2. Theology is the **lens** thru which they view life (24b-28)
  - a. **"Master"** Sovereign over all (Deuteronomy 10:17; Psalm 47:2-3, 7-8; **Jer. 32:17**; Acts 17:24-26; Rev. 19:6)
  - b. Creator of **everything** (Genesis 1:1; Psalm 33:6, 9; **Isa. 37:16**; John 1:3; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2; Rev. 4:11)
  - c. **Divine** Author of Scripture (1:16; **2 Timothy 3:16**; 2 Pet. 1:20-21)
  - d. Anointer of "*your holy servant Jesus*" (Acts 4:30; 10:38)
  - e. God works His plan **through** free moral agents whom He holds responsible (**Acts 2:23**; 3:18; Eph. 1:11)
3. "*And now, Lord, consider their threats . . .*" Prayer (29-30)
  - a. Our part—verbal **confession** "*with all boldness*"
  - b. God's part—visible confirmation in Jesus' **name** (3:6, 16, 4:10, 12, 17, 18)
  - c. What is missing from their prayer?  
**judgment on enemies** and **their safety and security**
4. "*And when they had prayed . . .*" What happened? (31)
  - a. God's presence is earthshaking (Isa. 6:4; Exodus 19:18)
  - b. God's power through His Spirit; a fresh **filling**
  - c. God's **Word** is spoken "*with boldness*"

## Life Group Homework

- 1) READ Acts 4:23-31. From this passage, write your answers to the four gospel questions below.

Who is God?

What has He done?

Who am I?

What am I to do?

- 2) Do you think there was a serious sense of utter and complete dependence upon God in the apostles' prayer? Explain.

*agree / disagree*

**"Your prayers mean nothing to God, until they mean everything to you."**

- 3) READ Acts 1:14; 2:46; 4:24. Think about the authentic biblical community seen in the early chapters of Acts. Is it idealistic? Realistic? Impossible in our culture? Other?

- 4) LifeGroup is designed with the idea that knowing God and each other you can pray together. Be sure to do that ☺