



ACTS 4

THE BELIEVERS PRAY AND SHARE

Scripture: Acts 4:23-37

Open: Greet, Praises, Requests, Pray

Main Takeaway: The church was more than a building, it was a group of people relying on one another, bearing one another's burdens, and sharing with any in need.

Supplies: None

Ask:

Who remembers what we talked about last week? (The lame man who was healed)
Did anyone remember throughout the week to be thankful? What were you thankful for?
We only told half of the story last week. You see, once the man was healed, not everyone was happy about it. I'm going to give a quick summary of what happened.

Explain:

After the lame man was healed, Peter and John were brought in and questioned by the Sanhedrin. This is the Jewish ruling council, and they're the same ones that plotted to kill Jesus. They asked: By what power or name do you do this? Peter boldly responded that it was by the name of Jesus that they did this. Then Peter told them that salvation was found in Jesus alone. The ruling men were astounded. These were men of great learning, and they were shocked at the way Peter was speaking. Acts 4:13 says "When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus." Take a minute and think on that. There was nothing special about Peter or John. The only thing was that they had been with Jesus. Let that be what people notice about us too. I pray people take notice that each of you has spent time with Jesus, reading his word and praying. After this, the men threatened them and let them go.

Read: Acts 4:23-31

Explain:

Prayer is such a powerful thing. We have access to the Creator of the universe through Jesus, our Great High Priest. Today, we're going to take some time to pray together. Have the kids sit in a circle and pray aloud. They can all hold hands and pray. After they are finished, they can squeeze the hand next to them. If they feel truly uncomfortable, they can simply squeeze the hand and pass their turn but encourage them that everyone feels a little uncomfortable when they first pray out loud. It gets easier the more you do it. Have them pray about anything they want- it can be praises or requests.

Read: Acts 4:32-37

Explain:

The church met the needs of the other people in the church. Church is not a building, it is a group of people that follow Jesus, loving him and loving one another. Many people in the early church were kicked out of their homes or lost their jobs for following Jesus. Because of this, it was up to the believers to care for one another's needs. We might not be kicked out of our homes for following Jesus today, but we can still help and serve one another. Let's think up a way we can serve someone in our church. Write it down, and Ms. Katie will work on a way to make it happen.

We're also going to serve our church today as we prepare for the Fall Festival. Have the kids help with table set-up, chair set-up, setting up games, and having the food set out.

Explain:

As followers of Jesus, our lives should be defined by love, service, prayer, and meeting the needs of others. I want you to think of ways you can do this in your family this week and with your friends or teammates or whatever people you find yourself around. You may be untrained and ordinary, but you will look different if you've been with Jesus.

Memorize Acts 4:13

Close in Prayer