

# Goldstone Church

## Small Group Questions

### **Acts 4:23-31**

#### **Talk About**

- Pick something out of your pocket or handbag and share why it's important to you.
- What would you consider your first, life-changing memory?
- What helps you remember something or someone? What do you find easiest to remember? Why?
- What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think about prayer? Why?

#### **Read About**

- What did Peter and John do when they were released from prison (v.23)?
- How did those hearing their report respond (v.24a)?
- Who does the prayer focus upon from the very start (v.24b)? What activity was acknowledged (v.24c)?
- How are King David's words especially identified (v.25)?
- Who are identified as conspiring against Jesus (v.27)?
- What/who limited the actions of the conspirators (v.28)?
- What do the believers specifically pray for (v.29)?
- In who's name were the prayer requests made (v.30)?
- In what way/s were the prayers answered (v.31)?

#### **Think About**

- The early Christians quoted the Bible in their prayer. How can this activity help us today?
- How should starting our prayers with the words "Sovereign Lord" affect what we then ask God for?
- How does safety and comfort influence our prayer requests?
- How do God's sovereign control of the world and our instruction to tell the world about our faith go hand in hand? See Matthew 28:18-20.
- What is the most comforting truth for you that comes out of this prayer (v.24-30)?
- You could end by reading / memorizing Acts 4:30.

## **Acts 4:23-31**

<sup>23</sup> On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. <sup>24</sup> When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God.

“Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. <sup>25</sup> You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

““Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?

<sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth take their stand  
and the rulers gather together  
against the Lord  
and against his Anointed One.’

<sup>27</sup> Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. <sup>28</sup> They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. <sup>29</sup> Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. <sup>30</sup> **Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”**

<sup>31</sup> After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.