*February 12, 2023*

**Sharing**

**6 Habits That Will Change Your Life: Part 6**

**Acts 4:20 / Jeremiah 20:9**

* This is God’s Word.
* It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction.
* It has God for its author,
* salvation for its end,
* and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter.
* It is the supreme source of truth
* for what we believe
* and how we live.

**What are the things you can’t stop talking about?**

**While Peter and John were speaking to the people, they were confronted by the priests, the captain of the Temple guard, and some of the Sadducees. These leaders were very disturbed that Peter and John were teaching the people that through Jesus there is a resurrection of the dead. They arrested them and, since it was already evening, put them in jail until morning. But many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of believers now totaled about 5,000 men, not counting women and children. The next day the council of all the rulers and elders and teachers of religious law met in Jerusalem. Annas the high priest was there, along with Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and other relatives of the high priest. They brought in the two disciples and demanded, “By what power, or in whose name, have you done this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers and elders of our people, are we being questioned today because we’ve done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says, ‘The stone that you builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.’ There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.” The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus. But since they could see the man who had been healed standing right there among them, there was nothing the council could say. So they ordered Peter and John out of the council chamber and conferred among themselves. “What should we do with these men?” they asked each other. “We can’t deny that they have performed a miraculous sign, and everybody in Jerusalem knows about it. But to keep them from spreading their propaganda any further, we must warn them not to speak to anyone in Jesus’ name again.” So they called the apostles back in and commanded them never again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, “Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him? We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard.” Acts 4:1-20**

**But if I say I’ll never mention the LORD or speak in his name, his word burns in my heart like a fire. It’s like a fire in my bones! I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can’t do it! Jeremiah 20:9**

**Sharing Our Faith Needs to be a Habit That**

**We Can’t Stop!**

**How Can We Make it Our Habit**

**and Change our World?**

**1. Know Jesus personally.**

**“…they realized that these men had been with Jesus.” Acts 4:13 (GW)**

**2. Be filled with the Holy Spirit.**

**“Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit…” Acts 4:8**

**3. Turn your conversations to Jesus.**

**“There is salvation in no one else…” Acts 4:12**

**4. Be full of grace but filled with courage.**

**“We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard.” Acts 4:20**

**5. Bathe your efforts in prayer.**

**“…all the believers lifted their voices together in prayer…” Acts 4:24**

**And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word…After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness. Acts 4:29-31**

**Everybody was involved!**

**Take These Five Steps**

* **Live an authentic Christian life.**

**You should live in a way that proves you belong to the God who calls you into his kingdom and glory. 1 Thessalonians 2:12 (GW)**

* **Pray for the lost by name.**
* **Invite your unchurched friends to church.**

**Andrew brought Simon to meet Jesus… John 1:42**

* **Tell your story.**

**Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony… John 4:39 (NIV)**

* **Share the Gospel.**