



Study Guide
Sunday 20 June 2021
Acts 4.1-21

#Don't feel the need to use all these questions, work out for yourself what ones will provoke conversation and challenge for your group

Please read Acts 4: 1-21:

- 1. When you read the passage, what are your first thoughts? What stands out?**
- 2. Which is your favourite true story from the Bible of someone who was scared and then became bold or brave for God?**
- 3. 'The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him. And after 3 days he will rise.' (Mark 9: 31). Can you think of other passages that the Holy Spirit has used to encourage you and you have come away feeling more bold?**
- 4. Contrast the actions of Peter (and John) in this chapter with the disciples behaviour around Jesus' arrest and execution (Luke 23: 54-62 for eg.)**
- 5. Why are we often so frightened about what people will think of us or say about us? How can we overcome this?**
- 6. What might we lose by speaking like Peter does? What might we gain?**
- 7. Tell us about a time you were scared to step out or speak up about Jesus.**
- 8. Peter was so confident about speaking about Jesus in front of other people because he was filled with the Holy Spirit and had seen Jesus do what He said he was going to do. What makes or would make you feel more confident to speak about Jesus in front of others?**
- 9. Have you ever experienced or seen others experience the Holy Spirit fill them and then use them/speak through them? What happened? What was it like? Did it make you feel Excited? Nervous? Awkward? Scared?**
- 10. If you have experienced the Holy Spirit fill you (as above) do you recognise the way Chris Lane feels? (in his book 'Ordinary Miracles') when he says... 'Almost every time just before God's Spirit has done something in me or through me, I have felt like it would be easier or less awkward if He didn't.'**
- 11. When was the last time you did an act of kindness? Or received one? (v9)**
- 12. V 31 'after this prayer, the building where they were meeting shook and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and preached God's message.' How do you recognise that the Holy Spirit is at work in your life and in the world around you?**

Close in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to fill us and use us.