

Message from God's Life-Giving Word

October 28, 2018

Big CHURCH – big & BOLD

*For there is **no distinction**: for **all** have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are **justified by his grace** as a **gift**, through the redemption that is in **Christ Jesus**, whom God put forward as a **propitiation** by his blood, to be received **by faith**. Romans 3:22-25*

* The church began as a _____ fueled by an event: Jesus' resurrection.

*Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great **boldness**. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform **miraculous signs and wonders** through the name of your holy servant Jesus. Acts 4:29-30*

*For God so loved the world that he **gave** his one and only Son, that whoever **believes** in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but **to save** the world through him. John 3:16-17*

LET'S BE BOLD!

* After they prayed for boldness, they spoke boldly about what they had

_____ and _____.

Notes on Acts 5:27-41 - The 12 Disciples and the Sanhedrin:

Steps towards BOLDNESS:

1. BOLD is deciding to say _____ when it would be easier to say _____.
2. BOLD is taking advantage of the _____ that present themselves.
3. BOLDNESS creates _____.

Next Steps

1. Journal the following: Are you practicing safe Christianity or bold Christianity? What's the difference? Who is the boldest Christian that you know? Why is it easier to practice "safe" Christianity? How do you know when being "bold" becomes over-the-top?
2. Read Acts 5:27-41. How might Gamaliel's words in verses 38-39 encourage you to be bolder in your faith? In what situations could you be bolder in saying something when it would be easier to say nothing at all? In what situations could you be bolder in taking advantages of existing opportunities or creating new opportunities?
3. The early church was marked with boldness, not secrecy. Rather than being a group of safe believers, the early Christians looked for opportunities to be bold. So, be bold. Speak up. Take advantage of opportunities God gives you. What are some opportunities where you can be bold? **REMEMBER:** *Your time in daily devotion and prayer is not just for your benefit. It's also for the benefit of others. Share what God is teaching you.*