

THE GOSPEL SPREADS THROUGH OPPOSITION

BIG TRUTH: THE GOSPEL SPREADS THROUGH OPPOSITION

1 Peter 4:12-14; Matthew 21:15-16; Luke 5:30-32; 6:22; Matthew 5:44; 2 Corinthians 12:10

BIBLE VERSE: ACTS 4:1-4

"And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand."

BIG IDEAS

- Opposition to the gospel is normal.
- Opposition is an opportunity to make Jesus known.
- Opposition reveals our hope.

BIBLE PASSAGE: ACTS 1:1-22

KNEEL - I AM AN AMBASSADOR

The Kneel Year is an exploration of what it means to worship God with our all (Luke 10:26-28). Worship is not something that is limited to a service once a week, but instead occurs every day, in all of life. We are unceasing worshippers. Worship never stops, it only changes directions. In order to worship God with all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind, we must embrace our identity as image bearers. It is out of that identity that we can begin to live for God's glory in all of life (Colossians 3:17).

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know that...

- The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ that brings salvation to sinners.
- Salvation comes by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone.
- Jesus followers have been trusted with the gospel in order to share it with others.



Every student should strive to...

- Share the gospel each month with at least one person who does not know Jesus.
- Practice sharing the gospel using multiple different tools or methods.



Every student should feel...

- Humbled that as believers we have been entrusted with the glorious gospel of our Savior.
- Satisfied in Jesus as the only true Savior



Every student should want...

- To grow in awareness of the false saviors they are tempted to put their hope in.
- To have a softened heart and love for people who are lost
- To take advantage of opportunities to share the gospel with people in their lives who need Christ

STUDENT WORKOUT:

This week we will consider our response to the opposition we face for sharing the Gospel. We will pray for perseverance and boldness to share the Gospel no matter what and we will practice hoping in Christ alone.

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**Read and meditate on Acts 4:1-22 this week.**

- As you read this passage and think about it, consider the boldness of the disciples in the face of opposition. Reflect upon Peter and John's response to the religious leaders. Ask yourself if you would respond the same way or not? What holds you back from being bold in the face of opposition to the Gospel? Are you willing to put your own life on the line for the Gospel? Are you ok when people ridicule you or you are an outcast for the sake of the Gospel?
- Think about how God has used opposition to the Gospel to spread it. How does opposition to the Gospel help the Gospel go out into the world? When you face opposition, how can you be more bold in sharing it? How does your perseverance when facing opposition show others the realness of your faith?

**Pray each day this week for boldness in sharing the Gospel.**

- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you recognize when you are shrinking back because of opposition. Ask for help in using the Spirit's power to live boldly for Christ.
- Set aside a time to pray with your small group leader this week. As you pray together, use the time to confess situation when you might be tempted to shy away from sharing the Gospel. Ask the Spirit for boldness in sharing the Gospel even if it means you stand out from others.

**Make a list of some of the people or situations you encounter who might oppose the Gospel.**

- Next to each person or situation on the list write a prayer for boldness to share the Gospel anyway. Discuss the list with your parent and ask for accountability in sharing the Gospel this week.
- Commit to memorize Acts 1:1-4 this week. Write these verses in your phone or on an index card. Work hard to commit these to memory to remind yourself of the boldness of Peter and John.
- Meet with your small group leader to discuss some ways you can boldly share the Gospel this week.