

March 13, 2020

Acts Acts 4:23-37

Introduction When you have experienced or observed persecution for faith in Jesus, what is your first response?

Head: What is the passage saying?

- 1. Revisit the events of chapter 4, and create an outline of what happened.
- 2. List some of the characteristics of the prayer (verses 24-30) in response to the circumstances of Peter and John.

The prayer in verses 25 and 26 quotes Psalm 2.

How does this Psalm fit their situation?

How can quoting Scripture ignite a prayer life (see verse 31)?

- 3. How did these early believers respond towards persecution and conspiring of those in positions of power? What was their view of God?
- 4. In verses 32-37, list the characteristics of the believers who were "one in heart and mind."

Hands: How do I practically live this out?

- 1. Does this praying (verses 24 30) characterize how your group prays together? Consider inviting someone in your group to lead out praying this way.
- 2. Consider the characteristics of the believers who were "one in heart and mind." What part can you play in displaying such unity?

Heart: How does this passage influence my inner being?

- 1. Looking back at the believers' prayer in verses 24-30, how does this example reveal your own prayer life? Find time this week to ask God to deepen your prayer life.
- 2. Verses 32-37 detail the level of generous sharing among the believers. Perhaps this is an opportunity to reflect on your practice of generosity personally. If this is an area of growth in your life, what is holding you back?