## I Will Build My Church Part 4: The Church's Boldness

Acts 3:1-4:31

The one who kneels before God can stand before men. The fear of God always displaces the fear of man.

-Steven Lawson

I. Boldness with a Receptive Audience

II. Boldness with a Hostile Audience

III. Boldness in Prayer

## **Small Group Study Questions**

## Into the Bible:

1. We can sometimes "oversell" the good news of the gospel by presenting it as a way to solve all of life's problems. Jesus even counseled some of his followers to "count the cost" of real discipleship and go home if they were not all in. Should we expect society to bring trouble to us as we live out our faith? (John 15:19-20, 2 Timothy 3:11-12) What does God want us to learn from suffering? (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

2. One of the frequent objections to Christian teaching is the exclusivity of the gospel. (John 14:6, Acts 4:12, Matthew 7:13-14) Why is this such a stumbling block in today's culture? Does this have any connection to the preceding question?

3. In Acts 4:29 the apostles are praying for boldness, but certainly fervent prayer should be done *with* boldness. We should always pray believing in results and confident of God's activity on our behalf. What do the following verses tell us about praying in boldness? (James 1:6, Matthew 21:22. James 5:16, 1 Thessalonians 5:17)

## For Families:

4. Talk with your children about how we pray and why we pray.