

ONE message. people. mission.



Jealous Of or For?

Acts 5:12-42

Overview

- **All of mankind is either jealous of or for the Name of Jesus...which are you?**
 - Signs and wonders are authenticators of the keys to the Kingdom that were given to the Apostles
 - Throngs are coming to faith
 - Community is holding them in high esteem
- **High Priests and Council are “full of jealousy” for how the Apostles are advancing name of Christ**
 - Losing their power, control, influence, comfort...they want what they have
 - Throw them in Prison
 - Angel of the Lord lets them out and tells them to preach the word of Life
 - Apostles obey word of Lord, not words of men
 - We must obey God, not men
- **The Apostles always advance the gospel**
 - Peter and the Apostles explains how God raised Jesus from the dead, whom they put to death on a tree, and how Jesus is the Leader and Savior and how HE gives repentance and forgiveness of sin
 - Apostles never get over the Gospel, they are always talking about it
 - Full of rage the Religious leaders want to kill them
 - Gamaliel reasons that others have reason, died and sputtered out
 - If let go, it could do the same, if not, they may be found to oppose God
 - The Apostles are beaten & come out rejoicing that they were considered worthy to suffer for the Name of Christ
 - They then continue to preach and teach
- **The Religious Leaders were ultimately jealous for their own name, the apostles were willing to suffer to advance the Name of Christ**

Questions

Discussion Starter: What are some that people try to advance their own name and why they attempt to do so?

Transition: How are the Apostles different?

1. How are the “signs and wonders” of the apostles “authenticators” of the “keys to the Kingdom” (Gospel)? How do they relate to the Gospel?

2. Why is it you think the Religious leaders are “full of jealousy” towards apostles?
3. What does the Angel of the Lord seem to be most interested in and what do we have to learn from that?
4. Discuss the radical obedience of the Apostles in this passage and its implications on our lives.
5. “We must obey God rather than men”...what are some ways we are attempted to not think and live this same way?
6. How is Jesus the “Leader and Savior” and what does this have to do with repentance and forgiveness of sins?
7. Who is the one who “gives” repentance & forgiveness of sins and why is this imppt?
8. Why do you think the apostles are rejoicing at being persecuted?
9. Why is it we shy away from persecution for the Name of Christ
10. What are some ways we can cultivate a more radical obedience to the Name of Christ?

Accountability Question: Are there areas of life where you are knowingly living for your name and not the name of Jesus?