

# Big & Bold

## Big Church, Part 3

### Acts 5:14-42

Pastor Ken Ritz \* July 14, 2013 \* New Life Vineyard Church

#### Review

- The church (grk. *ekklesia*) is a gathering or movement, not a building, location, hierarchy, or organization.
- The first recorded prayer of the brand new church was:  
*Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." Acts 4:29-30*
- How a church prays shows whether it has strayed... we need to pray "big prayers."

Our Culture of Comfort Has Eroded Our \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 5:14

*...more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number...*

Verse 17-26

*Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people all about this new life."*

*...At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them.*

Verse 27-33

*The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood."*

*Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings! The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed..."*

*When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death.*

Verse 40-42

*They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.*

*The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.*

*Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.*

#### Boldness Baby Steps

1. Bold is deciding to say \_\_\_\_\_ when it would be easier to say nothing.
2. Boldness is taking advantage of the \_\_\_\_\_ that present themselves.
3. Boldness is \_\_\_\_\_ opportunities.

*\*All scriptures from TNIV unless otherwise noted*