

## **AMAZING BOLDNESS**

Boldness is behavior (action) born out of **belief**.

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. 2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT)

Boldness = Greek *parrhesia* meaning: outspokenness, assurance, courageous, confidence, to <u>ACT</u> without <u>FEAR</u>.

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of our people, are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says,

'The stone that you builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.'

**There is salvation in no one else!** God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." The members of the council were **amazed** when they saw **the boldness of Peter and John**, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with **Jesus**. **Acts 4:8-13 (NLT)** 

## Three Facts about AMAZING BOLDNESS:

1. God gives **ordinary** people extraordinary boldness if we trust HIM.

...they (the leaders) could see that they (Peter and John) were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures...

2. God will use my **boldness** to change those around **me**.

The members of the council were **amazed** when they saw **the bold-ness of Peter and John**...

How bold am I (scale of 1-10)?

3. My spiritual boldness is directly <u>related</u> to my proximity to <u>Christ</u>.

They (the leaders) also recognized them as men who had been with **Jesus**...



Going deeper on your own: In this week's message, Pastor Jay challenged us to evaluate ourselves on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest) on how bold we are in living out our faith. How well did you do? Read the story of the shepherds in Luke 2:3-16. Recognizing that shepherds in the day of Christ's birth were not often in "the in-crowd," or leaders in the community, why do you think people listened to them about Jesus' birth? Now read all of Acts chapters 3 and 4 aloud very slowly. Write out a list of all the things that occurred. Make a list of all that Peter and John did and write out the effect it had on those around them. If you knew that God was waiting to change someone's life by using your faith, how would that motivate you towards being bolder in your faith? Now looking at The Wheel of Faith above, what actions will you take to build your boldness?