

## Acts 4

### Questions

1. Who came to Peter and John, what did they do, and why (4:1-3)?
2. What did many of the people do who heard Peter and John preach (4:4)?
3. What did the Jewish authorities want to know from Peter and John (4:5-7)?
4. What answer did Peter give concerning how the lame man was healed (4:8-10)?
5. What did Peter tell the Jewish authorities concerning Jesus (4:11-12)?
6. What did the Jewish authorities notice about Peter and John (4:13)?
7. What was it that the Jewish authorities could not deny (4:14-16)?
8. What did the Jewish authorities do to Peter and John (4:17-18, 21-22)?
9. What response did Peter and John give them (4:19-20)?
10. Where did Peter and John go when they were released from the council and what did they do (4:23-24)?
11. What actions are attributed to God in this prayer (4:24-28)?

12. What petitions to God were offered up in this prayer (4:29-30)?
13. How did God show his approval of this prayer meeting (4:31)?
14. How does Luke describe the attitude and actions of the believers (4:32, 34-35)?
15. What did the apostles continue to do (4:33)?
16. Who was Joseph (Barnabas) and what did he do (4:36-37)?

### **Digging Deeper**

1. Who were the Sadducees and what did they believe that was contrary to what was being preached on this occasion (4:1-2)?
2. Who were Annas and Caiaphas and had they ever had any contact with Jesus (4:6)?
3. What does “this” refer to in 4:7?
4. What OT scripture did Peter reference in 4:11?
5. What OT scripture was quoted in 4:25-26?
6. Does Acts 4:32-37 give justification for the modern-day practice of communism or socialism? What does Acts 5:4 teach about personal ownership of private property?

## Applications for Today

1. The Lord's church can grow even in the midst of persecution and opposition (4:4; Acts 6:7; 9:31; 12:24; 16:5; 19:20).
2. When called upon to defend your faith, don't be timid or fearful (4:8-12; 2 Tim. 1:7).
3. Do not reject Jesus because there is no other way to be saved without him (4:11-12; Jn. 14:6).
4. People today need to see a Christian's boldness and willingness to identify with Jesus (4:13; Acts 15:26; 1 Pet. 4:14, 16).
5. Some people just will not accept the evidence of truth no matter how compelling it is (4:14-16; Jn. 11:10-11; 12:42; 2 Thess. 2:10-12).
6. Stand up to bullies. Do not be moved. Be steadfast and continue standing for what is right even in the face of opposition (4:19-20, 33; Acts 14:22; Rom. 5:3; 12:12; 2 Thess. 1:4; 2 Tim. 3:11-12; Rev. 2:10).
7. Let us turn to God in prayer in times of persecution. Let us pray together as Christians, not that persecution would be removed altogether, but that we would have boldness in the face of persecution (4:13, 17-31; 2 Cor. 3:2; Eph. 3:12; 6:19; Heb. 3:6).
8. Believers need to be unified with each other, loving, caring, and sacrificial one toward another (4:32-37; Jn. 13:34-35; 17:21; 1 Jn. 3:21).
9. Benevolent help from the local church treasury was always given to needy saints, never to everyone in general (4:32-37; Acts 2:44-45; 6:1-3; 11:29; Rom. 15:31; 1 Cor. 16:1-3; 2 Cor. 8-9; 1 Tim. 5:4-16).
10. God will reward Christians with "great grace" when they do his will (4:33; 2 Cor. 12:9; Eph. 3:7, 20).