



Who have you been hanging out with?

By Derek Kiser on February 9, 2022

TODAY'S READING: Acts 4

We all know those we spend time with rub off on us for the positive or negative. As a kid you heard this from your parents. As a parent you notice, usually bad but sometimes good, things about your kids depending on who they have spent the most time around. Friends even have their own lingo. What do you say that is unique to your family or friends? Do you have a saying you are known for?

In Acts 4:13 we see this in a very positive way. *"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus."* These men did not have degrees on their walls; they had not studied under famous Rabbis of the day. The people recognized Peter and John had been with Jesus. Peter and John were bold. They understood Jesus was the Messiah and how he fulfilled prophecy and they could explain it. These guys were not what their lack of education and commonness would suggest. Clearly Jesus had rubbed off on them and influenced them.

I know people like this today who spend time in prayer and the Word. There is just something different about them - something you want more of. You want to spend time with them because you can tell they have been with Jesus.

Can people tell if I have been with Jesus? Yes, it affects how I treat people and the love and care I show toward them. It affects how I understand scripture and how I deal with trials. Can people tell you have been with Jesus? Are you scared, cowering in the corner in fear or bold? Do you have confidence not in your own understanding of the world but in Jesus whom you have spent time with?

PRAYER: God, help me spend time with You and passionately desire that time with You. Change me. Change my heart in my time with You so others know I have been with You. Help me see the world though Your lens because I have spent time with You.

TOMORROW'S READING: Acts 5

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