

## 1. Introduction

- a. Tell story with Kim K and Katie Couric - blasting someone on instagram isn't bold.
  - i. Twitter, facebook, memes, texts, AOL, emails
  - ii. Bold doesn't equal obnoxious, passive, around the bush, silence
- b. Speaking up boldly is difficult: challenging friends, speaking up for someone, even getting the courage to apologize or tell someone you were hurt
- c. Spiritual boldness is even more difficult b/c we are all afraid of being that awkward, obnoxious weirdo
  - i. So we tend to avoid spiritual conversations instead of seize chances
- d. They were bold in Acts. What does it mean to be bold? When do you talk? What are we supposed to be bold with?

## 2. Acts 3:11-4:22 - Bold Words

### a. 3:11-12 - Read Verses

- i. If you step out in bold faith, you will more likely have a chance to talk
- ii. If your faith = you're a nice guy, probably no one will be lining up to ask
  1. Why boldness is so important
- iii. Don't use St. Francis excuse
- iv. **Whenever you have an opportunity to BOLDLY talk about Jesus. Take it.** (Peter could have kept mouth shut, but didn't...)

### b. What do you share in those moments? The Gospel (Sum up 3:3-18)

- i. Saying "Jesus" would be bold, but he goes further, lays it on thick
- ii. (read v13) The God of our Fathers = What I'm saying isn't a new religion, but a confirmation of the prophecies of the past...
  1. The same God that did... also glorified Jesus
  2. Assigns a few OT messiah prophecies to Jesus to prove his point
- iii. (read v14) Holy/Righteous One
  1. Isaiah 53:11b, The **righteous one**, my servant, [will] make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.
  2. You killed a perfect man & released a convicted murderer
  3. BOLD - You killed the only one who can make you right w/ God
- iv. (read v15) Author of Life
  1. Creator = God. More than a servant of God, was God
  2. You killed the creator of life. He brings life. You took it away.
  3. BOLD - You killed the one who made life & one who brings new life
- v. (read v16) Jesus is the one who healed this man. How? B/C He is alive
  1. BOLD - You killed him but God raised him up
- vi. Suffering Servant (read v18)
  1. Part of the plan. God would send his servant to suffer for sins, pay the penalty, the righteous one, the author of life would die as a sacrificial substitute, like an animal sacrifice
- vii. If you were at Jesus' trial/crucifixion, mocked him, talked bad about him, cheered for his death, agreed w/ decision → Would be afraid (Peter too!)

- viii. **But when you have a chance to share, you boldly share the Gospel**
- c. **3:19-26, summarize**
  - i. Boldly sharing is not...verbally beat someone up, pushing agenda, etc
    - 1. If you don't desire times of refreshing, you'll be obnoxious
  - ii. Why are you being bold? Winning the argument? (examples)
  - iii. Jesus death was for forgiveness, not judgment (This is the "Why")
  - iv. You are bold b/c want people to repent & have refreshing, like Peter
    - 1. If you are here and not a follower, this is why we're bold...
  - v. Gospel is Good News b/c it's about forgiveness from destruction. You would think the response would be great, right?
    - 1. Bold to explain the implied consequences of not listening
  - vi. **Share the Gospel boldly, w/ the proper purpose**
- d. **4:1-4**
  - i. You can expect the same exact type of responses
  - ii. Proud get angry & turn their back on God
    - 1. The proud are who we fear the most (examples of responses)
    - 2. Irony → We fear the proud, but the proud have the most to fear
    - 3. Jesus never backed down from the proud (gave them Law)
  - iii. Broken surrender to Jesus & receive forgiveness, refreshing, & new life
    - 1. Impossible to embrace the bold words of the Gospel w/out brokenness - "blessed are the poor in spirit"
  - iv. If the Gospel (not your idiocy) offends, that is expected
  - v. God uses your bold words to break the proud & bind the broken (H.S.)
  - vi. **When you boldly share the Gospel, know that often the proud will reject your words and get defensive, but the broken will surrender to Jesus**
- e. **4:5-14**
  - i. So they spend night in prison. You'd think Peter would cool off...nope
    - 1. Peter starts going off - wonder what John is thinking...
  - ii. Continues the boldness b/c God wants truth proclaimed
    - 1. You're going to be tempted to do the opposite...
  - iii. The stone you rejected has become the foundation of everything
    - 1. Either keep rejecting it or change your foundation
  - iv. **Don't let a bad experience kill your passion for BOLDLY sharing**
- f. **4:15-22 - Leaders threaten Peter, tell him to keep his mouth shut**
  - i. I'm going to read you something BOLD:
    - 1. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
  - ii. You can't fear both God & man - make your choice
    - 1. Fear man → silence, loss of hope for the broken, no good news
    - 2. Fear God → respect for his commands, hope for world
    - 3. I would rather offend a few people than offend God

- iii. Love for Jesus is a greater motivator (who he is & what he has done)
  - 1. The more beautiful Jesus is to you, the more you will talk
- iv. What's the point? Strive to be like Peter. Get to the point where:
- v. **You can't help but BOLDLY speak about what Jesus has done.**

### 3. Conclusion

- a. My hope/prayer is that all of us would get to the point where we say, "We cannot help but speak about Jesus."
- b. The fact that all mankind are born in need of a heart transplant is only bad news if there's no cure
  - i. Jesus came, lived perfect life, died as a substitute before a holy God to provide forgiveness, refreshing & new heart to those who repent in faith
  - ii. That's not bad news. It is very, very good news not to be embarrassed of
- c. Here's the thing. Good News is only good news if it gets there on time
- d. **1) Respond Boldly:** Today, in some small way, you've heard the Good News - maybe for the first time.
  - i. We're not being bold to pick on you, but for forgiveness/refreshing
  - ii. How will you respond? Like the proud? Like the broken? No neutral zone
  - iii. Not ready yet? Dig in to God's Word
- e. **2) Speak Boldly** and don't be afraid
  - i. Not stupidly. Boldly, w/ prudence, w/ gentleness, w/ grace, w/ purpose
  - ii. Who? Friends, families, co-workers, strangers, neighbors, anyone
  - iii. What? The Gospel - Jesus died/rose for forgiveness of sin & refreshing
    - 1. Speak the Gospel to those who haven't yet surrendered to Jesus
      - a. Maybe this means... (for me, for you)
    - 2. Speak the Gospel to those who claim that they have surrendered
      - a. Maybe this means... (for me, for you)
- f. The Gospel is Good News. Dead man to life. Heart of stone to heart of flesh. Captivity to freedom. Sight to the blind. Purposeless to Meaning/Significance.
- g. To speak the Gospel, you need to know the Gospel - Dig in
- h. If it truly is Good News, and if you have experienced Jesus, then speak it boldly.
  - i. With your faith, with your actions, but also with your words.
- i. **Speak the Gospel Boldly. Will you proclaim hope for the broken or will you stay silent to coddle the proud? Speak the Gospel Boldly.**