



Acts 5:27–42 begins and ends with the apostles proclaiming the name of Jesus, yet the space between details the most severe persecution we have seen so far in our study. Despite their message being rejected, and their bodies beaten, the apostles rejoice in suffering and praise God that they were “Counted Worthy to Suffer.” With our bibles open and Judson’s letter ringing in our ears, let’s see how the apostles were willing to suffer: *For the Sake of the Name* (27-32), *For the Sake of Souls* (33-39), and *For the Joy of Being Counted Worthy* (40-42).

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Shaping Question: What am I willing to endure for the sake of Christ and for those who don’t know him?
2. What is the significance of the name of Jesus in this week’s text? And what role does the resurrection of Jesus play?
3. Are you ever prone to think that your sin has kept you beyond the mercy and grace of Jesus? How should this text comfort us against this temptation?
4. Will we rejoice if counted worthy to suffer for the name of Jesus?

**PRAY:** Pray that God would enlarge our hearts and give us a deep love for the lost. Pray for opportunity and boldness to share our gospel hope. Pray that God would count us worthy to suffer for his name and for the sake of his glory; and that we would rejoice despite our sufferings.