

SILENCE IS NOT AN OPTION

Acts 4:1-31 Jeff Schreve

But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge; for we cannot stop speaking what we have seen and heard." Acts 4:19-20

In our lost and dying world, will we speak up or shut up?

1. The presentation of the gospel is always hard on sin.

"But you disowned the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, but put to death the Prince of life, the one whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses." Acts 3:14-15

A. The realization and conviction of sin prepares the heart.

Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" Acts 2:37

B. Repentance is a necessary part of salvation.

... unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Luke 13:3, 5

2. The presentation of the gospel will always get a reaction.

"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12

A. The gospel makes it clear that Jesus is the only Savior.

B. The gospel is good news for repentant sinners.

C. The gospel is upsetting news for unrepentant sinners.

*** The unrepentant will seek to silence you or destroy you.**

"And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. Acts 4:18

3. The presentation of the gospel needs Spirit-filled boldness.

Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus. Acts 4:13

- A. We can submit ourselves to the Holy Spirit.
- B. We can make the decision to stand up for Jesus.
- C. We can pray for boldness and power.

Now is the time to take a stand, regardless of the consequences.