Embrace Holy Living



09/26/13 - Decisive Choices

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Acts 5:17-32

The officials questioned John and Peter about healing a crippled beggar. "By what power or what name did you do this?" These fishermen did not tremble, they did not mumble, they did not stumble; they stood face to face with their powerful accusers and did not flinch.

Instead, "filled with the Holy Spirit," Peter preached the gospel to them. This courage "astonished" the officials. These were but ordinary men?but ordinary men, they recognized, who had been with Jesus (4:13).

The disciples could not stop speaking about what they had seen and heard. Jealous officials jailed them again. But an angel freed them. We may have been tempted to run away. The disciples continued preaching.

The officials brought them in once more and Peter responded just as he had before: "We must obey God rather than human beings!" The leaders had the disciples whipped, then released. Instead of moaning, the disciples rejoiced that they had been counted worthy to suffer as had their Lord.

May He give us such courage!

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