# **GROWTH GUIDE**

For you. Your family. Your group.

## SERMON OUTLINE

- 1. Persecution won't hinder the Gospel. Acts 4:1-4
- 2. Opposition won't undermine the Gospel. Acts 4:5-12
- 3. Qualification won't enhance the Gospel. Acts 4:13-22

#### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

- 1. Looking back at your notes, is there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
- 2. What do we know about the Sadducees? How did they differ from Pharisees? How does knowing information about the Sadducees help us understand their opposition to Peter and John's teaching in Acts 4?
- 3. How should we respond to persecution and other hardships in life? How can our response actually serve to promote the Gospel rather than hinder it?
- 4. What sorts of excuses do we tell ourselves when an opportunity arises to share the Gospel but we choose not to? What's a truth from God's word would refute that excuse? For example, if I don't share because I'm worried what other people will think, then Galatians 1:10 reminds me that I'm trying to please God, not people.
- 5. If we believe that the truth of the Gospel is the exclusive truth and way to salvation, how should that impact how we interact with people who believe differently? How we share? What we spend our time/talent/treasures on?

### **BREAKOUT DISCUSSION**

- 1. How have you done recently at speaking of what you have seen and heard (v20) about Jesus's work in your life with others in your sphere of influence? If think you need to share more, how can the group encourage you? If not, how can you encourage others in the group to share?
- 2. Last week we committed to memorizing either 1 John 1:9 or Psalm 103:12. Review the verse you chose as a group.

#### **PRAYER POINTS**

- 1. Pray for our church that we would be a people that proclaims Christ's work boldly.
- 2. Ask God to work powerfully in those moments when you feel inadequate for the task you've been called to.
- 3. Praise God for giving us truth and the opportunity to participate in His redeeming work.