

Discussion Questions: Uncharted Territory
Courage for the Journey – Acts 5:17-42

Drawn from the June 22, 2025 sermon by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Opener: Have you ever experienced a challenge that changed you physically? How did it change you?

What challenge changed you the most spiritually? Would you say it was worth it?

1. It says in Acts 5:17 that the high priest and his associates were filled with jealousy. Why would the events of 5:12-16 make them jealous?

2. How would you have felt as a religious leader when the person came back and said that the apostles you put in jail are outside again preaching? Would you have blamed the guards or thought it was a miracle?

3. What things in Peter's response would raise their fury? Why do you think he was so direct?

4. How do you think Peter's statement in verse 29 may have impacted Gamaliel?

5. What is Gamaliel's point in recalling two leaders of a rebellion in verse 36-37?
6. Why did the disciples consider it worth rejoicing that they suffered in Jesus name?
7. Although not as severe, do you feel that you have been persecuted for your faith?
What were the circumstances? How did it affect you (both positively and negatively?)

Praying It Through

Thank God for refining our faith through discipline, persecution, and brokenness. Pray that God would continue to refine the faith of your group members and use them to proclaim Christ's kingdom.

For reflection in the group or on your own:

- A. How would you, as an apostle, have felt during the events described in Acts 5:18-21?
What would it have been like for all twelve of you to be taken in at once?
- B. Have you ever been in a situation where you had a sense that God rescued you from danger?
- C. Looking back, how has your sense of "faith that God would do something" affected how your prayers have been answered?

Next week, we will begin a new series in the Psalms called Words of Life. There will be discussion questions at www.sequimcommunitychurch.org/downloads