



SERMON NOTES

Sunday, February 7, 2021 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

“More Miracles and More Persecution”

Acts 5:12-26

1. Miraculous signs prove the apostolic message is true.
(Acts 5:12-16)

2. Even persecution is an occasion for proof that the message is true.
(Acts 5:17-26)

Table Talk

- 1) What evidence do we have that the miraculous became ordinary in the first church? (v. 12, 15-16) How was this in answer to prayer? (see 4:29-30) Does God want Christians to perform such miracles today? Why or why not?
- 2) How do we know that the reaction of outsiders to the first church was mixed? (vv. 13-14) How do we know that the first church was committed to large group worship as a key pathway to discipleship? (v. 12) How can you grow in your commitment to large group worship?
- 3) How do we see that popularity was a magnet for criticism of the first church? (vv. 17-18) In what ways do you see that today?
- 4) Who freed the apostles from prison? (v. 19) What mission were the apostles given? (vv. 19-20) How would you respond to such circumstances? How can we prepare for such boldness in the face of systemic opposition?
- 5) What is sort of humorous about the grand display of court proceedings of the chief priests in verses 21b-26? How do you think that Luke knows what was going on inside those proceedings? (see Acts 6:7 for a hint)
- 6) Who was not afraid in this story? Who was afraid in this story (see v. 26)? Why should the church today be unafraid?