

## Lesson Five: Confrontation

### **The Sanhedrin's first warning** (*read verses 4:1-22*)

- 1) The Sanhedrin did not doubt that a healing had occurred; they only wanted to know by what authority the apostles were preaching and healing. Specifically, what did Peter claim about Jesus (4:8-12)?
- 2) Peter and John had done nothing wrong, and the Sanhedrin couldn't deny the miracle, so at this point they could only issue a command and warning (4:13-18). How did Peter and John respond (4:19-20)?
- 3) Peter and John were committed to obeying God rather than the Jewish leaders when commands conflicted. What had the Lord commanded them to do (see 1:8)?

### **The believer's prayer** (*read verses 4:23-31*)

- 4) How do the believers respond to the Sanhedrin's threats?
- 5) What do they confess about God? Write down as many observations as you can.
- 6) What do they ask God to do (4:29-30)?
- 7) What attitudes, priorities, and feelings does the prayer reflect?

### **Gamaliel's counsel** (*read verses 5:12-42*)

- 8) Peter said that the apostles were witnesses to Jesus' crucifixion, resurrection, and exaltation and were testifying to these facts through teaching and miracles (5:12-16, 21). How was the Holy Spirit witnessing to Jesus' identity?
- 9) Dozens of movements and revolts had arisen and dissolved in the last few decades; what conclusion did Gamaliel draw from his two examples (5:35-39)?
- 10) How did the apostles respond to their sufferings (5:41-42)?

