

JOURNEY

ADVOCATES

PARENT GUIDE

LESSON 5.4: APOSTLES

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 5:17-42

SUMMARY:

This week's passage shows the amazing commitment the disciples had to sharing the gospel. However, Christians aren't the only people who suffer for their religion. What makes the disciples any different? Because the disciples followed Jesus for three years, witnessed the crucifixion, and claimed to have encountered the risen Christ. The apostles didn't merely believe in some religion. They were convinced that what they had experienced was true (Acts 4:20).

Many people will die for something they think is true. But who will die for something they know is a lie? History tells us that many of Jesus' followers suffered, were persecuted, and were killed. Their willingness to suffer and die for the Christian cause with absolutely nothing to gain in this life gives us great reason to believe that their message was in fact true.

CORE VERSES

So they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

Acts 4:18-20

CORE CONCEPTS

The apostles' willingness to suffer and die shows the depth and sincerity of their testimony.

APOSTLE:

A witness of the resurrected Jesus who was sent to proclaim the gospel

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Talk to me about the most interesting thing you learned from this week's lesson.
- How far would you go to convince others of something you knew was a lie?
- Why is the death of the apostles a convincing reason to believe what they said is true?
- Are you willing to meet the same fate as the apostles in order to share your faith?
- Describe your next steps based on what you've learned. How can I help?