



Holy Suffering

Sermon Questions

Date: *January 31, 2021* | **Scripture:** *Acts 5:17-42*

1. What comes to mind when you think of religious persecution? Do you have any experience regarding persecution?
2. Read *Acts 5:12-16*. Describe the effect that the proclamation of the gospel is having in Jerusalem.
3. Bill taught that persecution comes to the church when the gospel is being proclaimed in both word **and** deed. Most people naturally tend toward one or the other. Which are you most comfortable with? Why?
4. Often, we think we are being passionate about defending the gospel when in fact we are passionate about defending our possessions or standard of living. Reflect on your own life and share how this can be true.
5. Reflect honestly with your group. Are you too worried about avoiding persecution? What effect does this have on your life?
6. Alternatively, are you living in such a way that if persecution were to come, your neighbors would know that you are a Christian? How might you need to grow in this area?

Inward Grace in Action

The questions below are a little more intimate and are meant to be discussed with a trusted friend or partner.

1. Spend time in prayer asking the Lord to convict you through the words of this passage and sermon.
2. What is one word and one deed that you will commit to speaking/doing this week? Tell at least one other person and ask them to hold you accountable.

WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Here are some other ways you can meet with God throughout the week:

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- *Acts 5:1-16*
- *Daniel 3*
- *Matthew 10:16-33*
- *2 Corinthians 4:1-5:5*
- *Hebrews 13:1-16*
- *1 Peter 4*

Listen to the Unwavering worship playlist on Spotify.

Reach out if you need assistance during this time:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons' Fund at deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org

You can also find additional resources on our website: capitalpres.org.