# <u>Godspeed</u>

# "Spirit-Filled Boldness"

#### **PREPARATION**

- Familiarize yourself with this Home Community Study Guide.
- If you missed it, watch the sermon online <u>HERE</u>.
- Spend some time in prayer before your group gathers.
- As a leader you **always** have the option to use some or all the questions and/or write your own questions.

## **DISCUSSION**

## **Opening Prayer:** (1-5 minutes)

In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of how your group can invite God into your time together.

Have the group thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thank the Lord that He is sovereign and is orchestrating scenes that we do not even know about behind the scenes. Pray that the Holy Spirit would grant us the ability to step out boldly in faith as we love our community and proclaim the gospel amidst opposition.

**Check-In:** (5 minutes) Over the last week, what adventure has God called you to take? What was the first step of this adventure? What made this step so difficult?

**Discussion:** (30 minutes)

## What's Going on This Week

This Sunday, Pastor Danny led us into the second week of the new series titled *Godspeed*. Pastor Danny focuses our attention on Acts 3-4 and asks the question why doesn't the power of the Holy Spirit intersect with our lives more often? Pastor Danny challenges the church to follow the small promptings of God because we never know the circumstances that God is orchestrating.

"You never know when cookies could turn into salvation for someone!" - Pastor Danny Strange

#### Suggested Questions

- *Read Acts 3:1-10*: Pastor Danny starts his sermon by challenging the church to recognize that "world changing moments often start with a simple prompting". What stands out to you about Peter and John's encounter with the lame man? Is there time in your routine to cultivate a relationship with God? What do you need to do in order to make your routine breakable for the Lord's prompting?
- *Read Acts 3:11-4:4; Matthew 13:1-23, 31-35*: Next, Pastor Danny explains that God orchestrated this entire event in order to impact thousands of people with the gospel message. Share with the group a tiny event that changed the way you lived and perceived Christ! As you have been open to embarking on a journey with the Holy Spirit this series, what small promptings have been on your heart? Specifically, who can we pray for to experience this chain reaction of God's love?
- *Read Acts 4:5-22; Matthew 13:24-30*: Pastor Danny explains that the reason why so many of us shy away from the Lord's promptings is because we face opposition. What characteristics stand out to you as you read about Peter and John standing up to the Sanhedrin? What obstacles do you continue to face when it comes to making a stand and proclaiming the gospel? How can we pray for those obstacles? What rhythm of spiritual discipline do you desire so that you are more likely to understand God's promptings?
- *Read Acts 4:23-37; Eph. 2:10*: Finally, the scriptures describe a scene in which "acts of kindness" towards one another in the early church spread like wildfire because of their prayer for boldness! What bold prayer request do you have this week? How can we do something bold together as a group? What can we do as a group to unite together with our other fellow members at 3Crosses? With our neighborhood?

## **Closing Prayer:** (5-15 minutes)

# In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of what your group could talk about with God in prayer.

Thank Jesus for dying on the cross so that the Holy Spirit could reside in us. Pray for clarity and a listening ear as we search for the Holy Spirit's promptings this week. Pray that we would focus on abiding in his presence as we attempt to be obedient to whatever He calls us to do. Thank the Lord for the incredible gift of the Advocate. Finally, as the group goes out this week, ask the Holy Spirit would give us BOLDNESS to follow the Lord's prompting

#### THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

-*God shows up in power when Peter gets bold:* Throughout the week, discuss the methods which you will use to make your routine more breakable. Spend time this week with the Lord by reading Acts 3-4 and Matthew 13, by memorizing Acts 4:12 and Ephesians 2:10, and by praying for boldness!

*-Peter's bold action causes a chain reaction*: Throughout the week, look for opportunities to exercise boldness and partner with the Spirit's simple promptings. Take note of when it happens and how you respond.

*-The Holy Spirit shows up powerfully and rescues Peter from harm:* Throughout the week, wrestle through the roadblocks holding you back from being bold with a trusted member of the group and the Lord Himself! Have the group pray for you this week and commit to incorporating one new spiritual discipline that counteracts your fear.

*-The community prays for more boldness*: Throughout the week, be sure to contact one another and pray for boldness! Remind each other that everyone is in this together! Finally, just as Peter and John were together, find ways in which two or more people can be bold together with the same task!