

Praying for Boldness

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Intro - the promise of the Holy Spirit:

John 14:15 ESV - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

John 14:16 ESV - And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,

John 14:17 ESV - even the **Spirit of truth**, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him [it] nor knows him [it] . You know him [it] , for he [it] dwells with you and will be in you.

John 14:18 ESV - "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

John 15:4 ESV - **Abide in me, and I in you.** As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you **abide in me.**

John 15:5 ESV - I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever **abides in me and I in him**, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:6 ESV - If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

John 15:7 ESV - If you **abide in me**, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

John 15:8 ESV - By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

John 15:9 ESV - As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.

John 15:10 ESV - **If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love**, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

John 15:11 ESV - These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

[Joy is also a fruit of the Holy Spirit]

John 14:19 ESV - Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

John 14:20 ESV - In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and **you in me, and I in you.**

John 14:21 ESV - Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

John 14:22 ESV - Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?"

John 14:23 ESV - Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

John 14:24 ESV - Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

John 14:25 ESV - "These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you.

John 14:26 ESV - **But the Helper, the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

Purpose of today's message:

Today I want to show that as the disciples who received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost prayed for boldness to use the Holy Spirit and do the work, we, too, need to pray for boldness.

Need:

If the disciples and apostles needed to pray for boldness AFTER seeing the resurrected Christ.. And after working miracles, then we, too, need to ask God to give it to us so that we can do the work He has given us to do!

The story:

Acts 3:1 ESV - Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

Acts 3:2 ESV - And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple.

Acts 3:3 ESV - Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms.

Acts 3:4 ESV - And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us."

Acts 3:5 ESV - And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them.

Acts 3:6 ESV - **But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"**

Acts 3:7 ESV - And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong.

Acts 3:8 ESV - And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.

Acts 3:9 ESV - And all the people saw him walking and praising God,

Acts 3:10 ESV - and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

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Acts 3:12 ESV - And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk?"

Acts 3:13 ESV - The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him.

Acts 3:14 ESV - But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you,

Acts 3:15 ESV - and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

Acts 3:16 ESV - And his name--by faith in his name--has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

Acts 3:17 ESV - "And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers.

Acts 3:18 ESV - But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled.

Acts 3:19 ESV - Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,

Acts 3:20 ESV - that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus,

Acts 3:21 ESV - whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

Acts 4:1 NLT - While Peter and John were speaking to the people, **they were confronted by the priests, the captain of the Temple guard, and some of the Sadducees.**

Acts 4:2 NLT - These leaders were very disturbed that Peter and John were teaching the people that through Jesus there is a resurrection of the dead.

Acts 4:4 NLT - But many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of believers now totaled about 5,000 men, not counting women and children.

Acts 4:5 NLT - The next day the council of all the rulers and elders and teachers of religious law met in Jerusalem.

Acts 4:6 NLT - Annas the high priest was there, along with Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and other relatives of the high priest.

Acts 4:7 NLT - They brought in the two disciples and demanded, "By what power, or in whose name, have you done this?"

Acts 4:8 KJV - Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

Acts 4:9 KJV - If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

Acts 4:10 KJV - Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, [even] by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

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Acts 4:13 KJV - Now when **they saw the boldness** of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

...

After this they still prayed and asked for BOLDNESS.

Acts 4:29 KJV - And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and **grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,**

Acts 4:30 KJV - By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Acts 4:31 KJV - And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and **they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.**

Boldness = G3954 = παρρησία parrhēsia, par-rhay-see'-ah; from [G3956](#) and a derivative of [G4483](#); all out-spokenness, i.e. frankness, bluntness, publicity; by implication, assurance:—bold (X -ly, -ness, -ness of speech), confidence, × freely, × openly, × plainly(-ness).

The KJV translates Strong's G3954 in the following manner: [boldness](#) (8x), [confidence](#) (6x), [openly](#) (4x), [plainly](#) (4x), [openly \(with G1722\)](#) (2x), [boldly \(with G1722\)](#) (1x), *miscellaneous* (6x).

From Outline of Biblical Usage:

- I. freedom in speaking, unreservedness in speech
 - A. openly, frankly, i.e without concealment
 - B. without ambiguity or circumlocution
 - C. without the use of figures and comparisons
- II. free and fearless confidence, cheerful courage, boldness, assurance
- III. the deportment by which one becomes conspicuous or secures publicity

...

Acts 4:33 KJV - And **with great power** gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and **great grace** was upon them all.

Other uses of the word boldness in the New Testament

Acts 28:30 KJV - And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him,

Acts 28:31 KJV - Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all **confidence**, no man forbidding him.

2 Corinthians 3:12 KJV - Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech:[G3954]

2 Corinthians 7:4 KJV - Great [is] my boldness of speech[G3954] toward you, great [is] my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

Ephesians 3:12 KJV - In whom we have boldness[G3954] and access with confidence by the faith of him.

Ephesians 6:19 KJV - And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly,[G3954] to make known the mystery of the gospel,

Philippians 1:20 KJV - According to my earnest expectation and [my] hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but [that] with all boldness,[G3954] as always, [so] now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether [it be] by life, or by death.

1 Timothy 3:13 KJV - For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness[G3954] in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Philemon 1:8 KJV - Wherefore, though I might be much bold[G3954] in Christ to enjoin thee that which is convenient,

Hebrews 4:16 KJV - Let us therefore come boldly[G3954] unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 10:19 KJV - Having therefore, brethren, boldness[G3954] to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

Hebrews 10:35 KJV - Cast not away therefore your confidence,[G3954] which hath great recompense of reward.

1 John 2:28 KJV - And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence,[G3954] and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

1 John 3:21 KJV - Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, [then] have we confidence[G3954] toward God.

1 John 4:17 KJV - Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness[G3954] in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1 John 5:14 KJV - And this is the confidence[G3954] that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

Conclusion - We need to be praying for boldness to do the work God has given us at this time.

Matthew 5:13 NLT - "You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.

Matthew 5:14 NLT - "You are the light of the world--like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.

Matthew 5:15 NLT - No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house.

Matthew 5:16 NLT - In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

The disciples prayed for boldness and God gave it to them and they did an amazing work!

Acts 17:6 KJV - And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also;

Pray that we have the boldness to proclaim the gospel and that Christ may return soon:

Matthew 24:14 KJV - And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.