

You Will Pray with Power

Acts 4:23 On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. 25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 26 The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.' 27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. 28 They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. 29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." 31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Lessons We Will Learn in this Series:

1. There are _____ of being Spirit-filled that Christians need to _____ (and these are not all of them!)
2. We should regularly evaluate ourselves by these characteristics.

The Context:

The Lame Man --

The Warning from the "authorities" --

Before You Pray:

Understand your _____ to God!

Acts 4:24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. 29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Acts 4:30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

"Sovereign Lord" is the word *despotes* – An absolute _____

"Servants" is the word *doulos* – one in _____ to a master

Understand your relationship to the _____!

"Went back to their own people?" – _____

"Reported all" – The disciples believed in _____ prayer!

When You Pray:

_____ before your Creator.

Acts 4: 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them.

Be _____ for a God who _____ to us.

Acts 4: 25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?"

Who _____ the Bible? _____, directed by the Holy Spirit
2Pet. 1:21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Be _____ to a God who writes _____
before it happens!

Acts 4:28 They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen.

Be _____ in your _____.

Acts 4:29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

1. More _____

2. More _____

Would you ask for the opportunity to get in more trouble?

Be ready to give _____ where credit is _____!

Acts 4:30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

After You Pray:

Understand that God heard your prayers, assuming . . .

You are a _____

Psa. 34:15 The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their cry;

You are _____ in _____

Psa. 66:18 If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;

Ask Yourself:

What drew these Christians to pray? What draws you to pray?

Are you asking for boldness and the opportunity to share your faith?

Do you have the right attitude towards God in prayer?