

January 25th, 2026

Sermon: Acts: A Church Is Born | The First Persecution

Main text: Acts 4:1-21

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS...

1). What does this story tell me about God?

2). What does this story tell me about people (or about myself)?

3). If this is God's word for my life, how will I obey it?

4). Who am I, going to tell?

Other, Key quotes; points and questions to reflect on and discuss from Ryan's message:

Key Points:

Key Quotes from the Message

"How will the church respond when there are structures—political and otherwise—that don't want the church?"

"The church has not just survived; it has thrived—if it figures out its purpose, voice, and nature."

"People often want the outcome without the discomfort of the journey."

"When following Jesus becomes inconvenient or risky, who do you listen to your King or the crowd?"

Reflections:

Reflect on where following Jesus currently feels inconvenient or costly.

Am I tempted to stay silent to preserve comfort, approval, or control?

Key Questions to Discuss:

How does this passage challenge the idea that faith should always be safe or comfortable?

Where in your life might you be acting like the Sanhedrin protecting control instead of discerning God's movement?

When social or relational pressure rises, what voices most shape your response fear, approval, conviction, or trust?

What would it look like for your character to create curiosity about Jesus this week?

