***Acts 4:29-31 Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, 30by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.” 31And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.***

Bible school was such a blessing, whether the young children, teens, or adults. Thank you to everyone that came out and worked night after night or provided food or took any hand in making the week a wonderful success. Of course, we know that our work is not over. There’s opportunity to do follow up contacts with the children and parents. VBS doesn’t end on the last night – the children have been impacted, the adults have been impacted, and we have been impacted. It’s my belief that we’ve all been changed by some part of Bible school this week.

Looking at Acts 4, we find that the Peter and John have just been released from custody. Of all things, they healed a lame man and caused a stir among the people. The captain of the Temple, priests, and Sadducees brought them to the Sanhedrin. The Jewish High Court if you will. In Acts 4:13, they say that they “realized that they (these men) had been with Jesus.” What a marvelous thing to be accused of! They admit – a miracle has taken place and we can’t deny it in verse 16. To hold the Hope that is Jesus Christ in check… what is the plan? Verse 17 – threaten and forbid them from speaking of all that Christ has done, the miracles, the fellowship with believers.

Now, in verse 29, when Peter and John make it back to their group of disciples, we see something that is useful to us today. *Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word.* Notice there has been a great victory, they have been let go. They don’t react angrily. They don’t give in to threats. They pray. God look at their threats and grant boldness to speak Your word. After a week of Vacation Bible School, this is not the time to fall silent, but the time for boldness – boldness to speak the Word. Some wonder why you worked so hard? Speak boldly. Some will ask if you’re part of those fanatics that believe in Jesus? Speak boldly. Some will say – surely, you’re not going to do that again next year. Speak boldly.

Verse 30 *by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.* As they speak the word of God with all boldness, they have an expectation – that God will stretch out His hand to heal, doing signs and wonders in the name of Jesus. They will be bold and God will act. God is still doing bold acts of signs and wonders. He is still stretching out His hand Through Jesus. But how do the people know if they are never told? Romans 10:14 *How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?* Who is the bringer of this good news of healing in the name of Jesus? We are. But we must speak with all boldness always and at every opportunity/

Verse 31 *And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.* God granted their prayer. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness. Let us pray for be filled with the Holy Spirit daily and to speak the Word of God with boldness.

This week, take the time to rest. Take the time to catch up on things left undone because of dedication to the children and the church last week. But, also take the time to pray for the Holy Spirit, pray for boldness, and plan how you might share God’s word boldly. Christ is still healing – signs and wonders are still happening – but people cannot call of Him when they don’t know Him. Who might you introduce to Jesus in the coming days and weeks?