

The Book of Incarnations!
Part 6: Bold Walking, Hard Talking!
Slide Notations

Bumper sticker: “Less talk... more walk!” The heart of incarnational preaching is exactly that – your “walk” does the talking!

“Incarnation” “Bring forth fruits that answer to repentance!” **Mt3.8 –John the Baptist** “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven!” **6.16** “By their fruits you will know them...” **7.20** Why do you call Me Lord and do not the things I say?” **Lk 6.46**

Show me your faith without your works and I will show you my faith by my works! You say you believe there is one God, “Great!” but if that’s your claim to faith you need to remember that devils believe that and tremble! You need to know; faith without works is dead! Abraham, the father of faith, was justified by the works of his faith when he offered up his son on the altar – see how his faith materialized in works and his works testified to his faith! The scripture gives us insight; Abraham believed God (and acted on his faith) and it was credited to him as righteousness! So you can see that by the works that come from faith a man is justified and not by faith that comes with words only. As the body w/o the spirit is dead... so faith w/o works is dead! **James 2.18-26**

Once we believe in Jesus and are saved by faith, that same faith should influence and empower our actions!

We can make it to heaven without works, but we can’t prove our salvation here without the right kind of actions!

The inspired Word must become incarnational in us!

Acts 4.1-32 The religious leaders were grieved that the disciples taught the people *and preached thru Jesus the resurrection of the dead*. And they had them arrested, even though more than five thousand believed the preaching and the miracle healing! Later, they were questioned *by what power and by what name they worked such a mighty miracle*. Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit said, “You need to know it was Jesus, whom you killed, that made this man whole. *And there is salvation in no other, for there is no other name among men whereby we must be saved!* Now when they saw Peter and John’s boldness and the guy who was healed standing right there they couldn’t say anything else! So they sent them into another room while they tried to decide what to do. Their answer? ‘So that this goes no further, let’s threaten them not to speak anymore in His name.’ So they called them and threatened them. And Peter and John answered, ‘we can do nothing but speak what we have seen and heard.’ So they threatened them again... and let them go. And being let go they went to their own and reported the whole story, and when they heard it they lifted up their voice, ‘Lord, you are God, you made heaven and earth, You ask, why do the heathen rage and imagine vain things? The kings lined up against Your holy child Jesus and could only do what was appointed... so Lord, hear the threats and grant to your servants the boldness to speak Your word by stretching Your hand to heal and do signs and wonders in Jesus name!’ And the place was shaken and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and they spoke the word of God with boldness! And they were of one heart and one soul...

Acts 5.12-42 And the apostles did many signs and wonders and many more were added to the Lord and they brought all their sick into the streets and as Peter passed by people were healed in his shadow and they were all healed, everyone! Then the high priest, angered, pulled them in again and put them in prison but an angel let them out and told them to go and speak all the words of this life to the people... and when the religious leaders found them again they brought them before the council and said, ‘didn’t we tell you to stop? Now you have filled this place with His name and intend to bring His blood on us.’ Then Peter and the others answered, ‘we must obey God more than you...’ After scourging them... they commanded once again that they stop speaking in

the name of Jesus any more, and the disciples left the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for the His name – and they never ceased teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ!

The Inspiration... WOW! The inspiration to stand up for Jesus is all there! Miracles, preaching, salvations by the thousands, show-down's with villains, shock-and-awe, jail time, angels, a city turned upside down, the joy of making ugly people crazy, taking a beating, blood on the ground, and turning up the sound!

IT'S ALL THERE IN 79 VERSES/4 PAGES! Living color, surround sound, smell-a-vision! The inspiration is there for involuntary hand clapping, outbursts of laughter and hero worship of disciples!

The Incarnation... Prepare for challenges and pains that start out light and increase in intensity... They put them "in hold" and commanded them not to speak... **A4.3** Dismissed as unlearned & ignorant, *just followers* of this Jesus! **v13** Then in "common population" **5.18** Rebels/revolutionists: death penalty **v28** Then took and *beat them*, commanding them to not speak in Jesus name! **v40**

Live knowing that what you model successfully, emboldens other to 'enter' the fray... 1st, Peter speaks up... **4.8** Then Peter and John answered... **4.19** Then Peter/other apostles speak up... **5.30** Then people you wouldn't expect to speak up, speak up, a lot! **5.34-39** Then everyone felt secure to speak up **5.42**

There are people to inspire, watching to see which side has the juice! "Many of them heard and believed, and the number was more than 5,000! **A4.4** "when they heard they lifted up their voices to praise v23 and speak boldly." **v31** "And great fear came upon them all and they magnified the disciples and multitudes believed!" **5.11-14** "and they brought the sick/vexed!" **v15** "they left rejoicing and ceased not!" **v41, 42**

How would the crowd have responded, what would have been the outcome, if the disciples backed down?

How will your family and friends respond if in the time of your challenge you back down... or step up?

Let the Word of God dwell in you richly... let it produce in you confidence and boldness to speak!

So speak up!

Train yourself to say something when it would be easier to say nothing! Share your life; the change, the deliverance!

Take advantage of every opportunity! Why do you care if some don't like it? Those who hear will be glad!

Create an opportunity to love! "What will their lives be like if I do share Jesus... and if I don't?"