

Acts 4:1–31 | Pastor Steve Wells | 04.02.2023
Replay message at: <http://www.northpointeFL.org/messages>

This morning Pastor Steve took us through **Acts 4:1–31**. In chapter 4, Peter & John are carrying the message of Jesus forward when suddenly they are arrested and brought into a hostile environment for questioning. Peter and John find themselves standing in front of the very same people who successfully led in the prosecution and execution efforts of Jesus Christ. Although the intimidation couldn't have been higher, they stood firm. As a result of their boldness, the church grew and other believers were even more inspired to be bold as well!

Pastor Steve talked about how God created the wind, waves, etc. this morning. Sometimes God directs nature for His purposes (ie. Noah's Flood, Red Sea, Earthquakes.). He also reminds us that God's greatest creation was mankind (US). Imagine how powerful and impactful we can be when we are "obedient to" and "directed by" the mighty hand of God.

So Will I

Songwriters: Benjamin William Hastings / Michael John Fatkin / Joel Timothy Houston
So Will I (100 Billion X) lyrics © Hillsong Music Publishing Australia

*If the stars were made to worship so will I
If the mountains bow in reverence so will I
If the oceans roar Your greatness so will I
For if everything exists to lift You high so will I
If the wind goes where You send it so will I
If the rocks cry out in silence so will I*

Discussion Questions:

- What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- How do you think you would have acted in this situation? Be honest.
- Do you think Peter & John had any idea that they were going to be released OR do you think it is possible they thought today may have been their last day? Discuss.
- How does our culture today compare to the pressures of what the early church was facing back then?
 - Do you think Christians are influenced or pressured based upon our Christian identities?
 - How do you resist letting cultural pressure, politics, finances, popularity, or success become the source of our/your identity and fuel the expansion of the gospel?
 - What are some other ways (you don't do but could do) to resist letting these things take over?
- Pastor Steve said "Imagine how powerful and impactful we can be when we are "obedient to" and "directed by" the mighty hand of God." What is something you have seen that was powerful or impactful because of you or someone else listening to the direction and being obedient to God?
 - How do you know what God is telling you to do in your life?
 - Is there somewhere or something He is directing you towards?
- How can we pray for you this week?