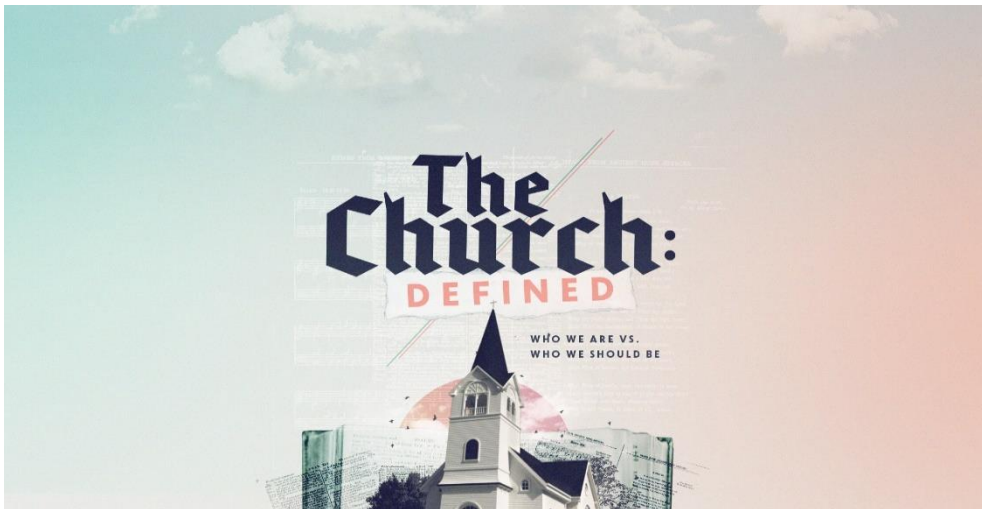


Discovery Service Order and Message Outline



WELCOME TO CEC..... Pastor Phill and Phil Marfleet
 WORSHIP VIDEO Everlasting God
 PRAYER
 UPDATES Phil Marfleet
 CHILDREN'S TALK..... Jackie and Phil
 WORSHIP VIDEO..... He is Worthy
 BIBLE READING Acts 5:12-42
 MESSAGE Taught by Pastor Phill
 WORSHIP VIDEO..... Let Your Kingdom Come



The Church Defined ~3
Boldness leads to opportunities.
 Acts 5:12-42

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

We live in a culture where boldness about our faith will cost us almost nothing, but we lack _____.

There was a time when the church was fueled by the conviction that everybody will spend _____ somewhere.

1. Boldness is radically _____.

'Having brought the apostles, they made them appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood."' Acts 5:27-28 NIV

'Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than men! The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Saviour that he might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death.' Acts 5:29-33 NIV

'But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honoured by all the people, stood up in the Sanhedrin and ordered that the men be put outside for a little while.' Acts 5:34 NIV

'Then he addressed them: "Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. Some time ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing.' Acts 5:35-36 NIV

'After him, Judas the Galilean appeared in the days of the census and led a band of people in revolt. He too was killed, and all his followers were scattered.'

Acts 5:37 NIV

'Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.' Acts 5:38-39 NIV

2. Boldness is gloriously _____.

'His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.'

Acts 5:40 NIV

'The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.' Acts 5:41 NIV

'Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.' Acts 5:42 NIV

1. Bold is deciding to say _____ when it would be easier to say nothing.

2. Bold is taking advantage of the _____ that present themselves.

3. Bold is _____ opportunities.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.' John 3:16 NIV



SMALL GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION

1. Are we practicing safe Christianity or bold Christianity? What's the difference?
2. Who is the boldest Christian that you know?
3. Why is it easier to practice "safe" Christianity?
4. How do you know when being "bold" becomes over-the-top?
5. Read Acts 5:27-41. How might Gamaliel's words in verses 38-39 encourage you to be bolder in your faith?
6. In what situations could you be bolder in saying something when it would be easier to say nothing at all?
7. In what situations could you be bolder in taking advantages of existing opportunities?
8. In what situations could you be bolder in creating new opportunities?



Watch and listen to the message again, or an archived message by going to www.youtube.com/cowplainchurch.