

Sermon Notes
Suffering - Acts 5:12-42

Reasons we ought to trust God even in tough times!

1) Trust God when HE gives good things!

- God has repeatedly demonstrated His love and grace over the launch of the Church!
- God had show His power through miracles.
- God has protected his people from the officials, he gave them favor.
- God even protected them from deceitful followers (Ananias and Sapphira)

2) Trust God, when the going gets tough!

- The “Apostles” were arrested in this story. It marks the first substantial persecution after Jesus’ death.
- See how God miraculously intervenes and releases them from the jail.
- See Peter’s admonition that, “who should they fear more, man or God?”
- See how God uses Gamaliel to reason with the Sadducees to not fight against God.

3) Trust God, even when it hurts!

- The intensity quickly ramps up when the leaders have the “Apostles” flogged before releasing them.
- The threat was ongoing, the warning to refrain from sharing the gospel was real.
- The disciples rejoice at being counted worthy to suffer in the name of Jesus!

Questions & Challenge:

1. Do I trust Jesus through the good and the bad?
2. Do I give until it hurts? Whether it is time, funds, or service?
3. Do I rejoice when I realize that Jesus is proven in my life through suffering and difficulty?

Pray - Abide deeply in Christ. Listen to his voice daily.

Care - Engage in community, bare the burdens of others, care for each other.

Share - Live out the Mission of God in our lives. Share the Gospel, Be light in the darkness, share hope during this dark time.