



EN(COURAGE)MENT
IN A
CHANGED
WORLD #4:
THE CHURCH

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A *CHANGED* WORLD #3: WORK

◆ **Key Verses:** Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-37

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A *CHANGED* WORLD #3: WORK

Acts 2:42 *And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*

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**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
CHANGED WORLD #3: WORK**

**43 And awe came upon every
soul, and many wonders and
signs were being done through
the apostles.**

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
CHANGED WORLD #3: WORK**

**44 And all who believed
were together and had all
things in common.**

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
CHANGED WORLD #3: WORK**

**45 And they were selling their
possessions and belongings and
distributing the proceeds to all,
as any had need.**

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
CHANGED WORLD #3: WORK**

**46 And day by day, attending the
temple together and breaking bread
in their homes, they received their
food with glad and generous hearts,**

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
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**47 praising God and having favor
with all the people. And the Lord
added to their number day by day
those who were being saved.**

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A *CHANGED* WORLD #3: WORK

Acts 4:32 Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common.

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
CHANGED WORLD #3: WORK**

**33 And with great power the apostles
were giving their testimony to the
resurrection of the Lord Jesus,
and great grace was upon them all.**

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A *CHANGED* WORLD #3: WORK

34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
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**35 and laid it at the apostles'
feet, and it was distributed to
each as any had need.**

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A *CHANGED* WORLD #3: WORK

**³⁶ Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus,
³⁷ sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.**

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
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**1. Courage to Stay Committed
in the Bible (Everything Starts
with That!)**

(Acts 2:14-24, 37-41)

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Acts 2:14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.

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**15 For these people are not
drunk, as you suppose, since it
is only the third hour of the
day.**

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**16 But this is what was
uttered through the
prophet Joel:**

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**17 ““And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions, and your
old men shall dream dreams;**

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**18 even on my male servants and
female servants in those days I
will pour out my Spirit, and
they shall prophesy.**

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**19 And I will show wonders in the
heavens above and signs on the
earth below, blood, and fire, and
vapor of smoke;**

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**²⁰ the sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood, before the day
of the Lord comes, the great and
magnificent day.**

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**21 And it shall come to pass
that everyone who calls upon
the name of the Lord shall be
saved.’**

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22 “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—

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**²³ this Jesus, delivered up according
to the definite plan and
foreknowledge of God, you crucified
and killed by the hands of lawless
men.**

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**24 God raised him up, loosing
the pangs of death, because it
was not possible for him to be
held by it.**

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Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

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³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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**39 For the promise is for you
and for your children and for
all who are far off, everyone whom
the Lord our God calls to himself.”**

EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A *CHANGED* WORLD #4: THE CHURCH

40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.”

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**41 So those who received his
word were baptized, and there
were added that day about three
thousand souls.**

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2. Courage to Be Bold in

Our Response to the

World (*Acts 4:5-13*)

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Acts 4:5 On the next day their rulers and elders
and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem,
⁶ with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas
and John and Alexander, and all who were
of the high-priestly family.

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**⁷ And when they had set them
in the midst, they inquired, “By
what power or by what name
did you do this?”**

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**⁸ Then Peter, filled with the
Holy Spirit, said to them,
“Rulers of the people and
elders,**

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**9 if we are being examined
today concerning a good deed
done to a crippled man, by what
means this man has been healed,**

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¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well.

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**11 This Jesus is the stone that
was rejected by you, the
builders, which has become the
cornerstone.**

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12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

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¹³ Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

**ENCOURAGEMENT IN A
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3. Courage to Persevere

During Persecution

(Acts 8:1, 4-8)

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Acts 8:1 And Saul approved of his execution.

And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.

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⁴ Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word.

⁵ Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ.

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**⁶ And the crowds with one accord
paid attention to what was being
said by Philip, when they heard
him and saw the signs that he did.**

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⁷ For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed.

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**⁸ So there was much joy in
that city.**

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4. Courage to Be Personally

Disciples...and Then to Personally

Disciple Another Christian

(Acts 9:19b-22, 26-29)

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**Acts 9:19^b For some days he was with the
disciples at Damascus.**

**²⁰ And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in
the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of
God.”**

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**21 And all who heard him were amazed and said,
“Is not this the man who made havoc in
Jerusalem of those who called upon this name?
And has he not come here for this purpose, to
bring them bound before the chief priests?”**

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
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**22 But Saul increased all the more
in strength, and confounded the
Jews who lived in Damascus by
proving that Jesus was the Christ.**

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**9:26 And when he had come to
Jerusalem, he attempted to join the
disciples. And they were all afraid of
him, for they did not believe that he
was a disciple.**

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²⁷ But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus.

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**28 So he went in and out among
them at Jerusalem, preaching
boldly in the name of the Lord.**

**EN(COURAGE)MENT IN A
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**29 And he spoke and disputed
against the Hellenists. But they
were seeking to kill him.**

**BE
THE
CHURCH**

*don't just go
to church
be the church*