

Digging Deeper Sermon Series: *Submerged*,
Sermon Title: *Lost & Gained*, Sermon Subject: *Disciple*
by Robert Lee
Scripture Lesson: Acts 4:32; 5:6

Monday – Pray for Spiritual Faith. In a previous Scripture lesson, we discovered that Peter and John were sent before the Sanhedrin who were greatly disturbed because Peter and John were teaching the people, proclaiming in Yeshua (Jesus) the resurrection of the dead (Acts 4:2). Annas and Caiaphas, high priest at the time, sat among the elders and teachers of the law as Peter and John were being questioned. This faction of religious leaders (Caiaphas in particular) is responsible for examining Yeshua, predicting his death, plotting to kill Yeshua, and charging him with blasphemy. In this passage, however, they are in the process of persecuting Yeshua's followers, namely Peter and John.

Tuesday – Pray for Spiritual Courage. When the religious leaders saw the courage of Peter and John, they took note that these ordinary men spent time with Yeshua and possessed the power (in Jesus' name) to heal the lame beggar (Acts 3:6-7). In Acts 4:15-17, we find that Peter and John were ordered to withdraw from the Sanhedrin so the religious leaders could strategize how they would deal with them. They decided that by silencing Peter and John, it would keep them from spreading their teaching among the people, who by the way were in support of Peter and John's message about the good news of Yeshua.

Wednesday – Pray for Spiritual Boldness. In Acts 4:18-22, we see where Peter and John were called again before the Sanhedrin, who ordered them to stop teaching and preaching in the name of Yeshua. But Peter and John continued to speak boldly and refused to remain silent. After further threats, the two were released because the Sanhedrin could not figure out how to punish them. Making the Sanhedrin's decision worse were the followers of Yeshua who were growing in numbers and

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praising Yahweh (God) due to the miracle they had just witnessed involving Peter, John and the lame beggar.

Thursday – Pray for Spiritual Acceptance. In Acts 4:23-31, we find that after Peter and John were released, they returned to their people and explained all that they had encountered. Together they prayed to Yahweh, honoring his superiority over everything in the heavens and on earth. They also praised the Holy Spirit who spoke to God's people through the mouth of David, and recognized the fulfillment of prophecy through the life, death and resurrection of his holy and anointed servant Yeshua. "After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of Yahweh boldly." (Acts 4:31 NIV)

Friday – Pray for Unity Among God's People then read Acts 4:32. This is foundational Scripture for many church organizations. Imagine how wonderful it will be when the gratifying desires of the flesh lose its grip on this sinful world. Also read Galatians 5:13-21 to learn more about desires of the flesh and its impact on life.

Saturday – Pray for Spiritual Truth after reading Acts 5:1-11. One of the scriptural foci for this week's lesson is found in verse 6. However, to receive its full effect, it is recommended that you read this passage in its entirety. Become an honest person by being honest first, with self. When you get good at it, practice being honest with others. Also read Psalm 101:7; 2 Corinthians 4:2-6; Colossians 3:9-10; and Revelation 21:22-27 to learn more about the penalty of dishonesty.