



ACTS OF THE  
*Holy Spirit*

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR CONNECT GROUPS

22 JAN 2023

“THE SPIRIT WHO WORKS MIRACLES”

ACTS 5.12-21

### Suggestions for Making the Most of your Group Time

1. Begin by reviewing the video of the sermon, preferably before you meet together (see <https://www.brmc.org.sg/services/sermons/>).
2. Read the Scripture passage together, before entering into discussion.
3. Spend time on both question components, namely:
  - a. Comprehension (*Who? What? When? Why? How?*);
  - b. Application / Transformation (*So what? What action should I take? Perspective should I adopt? Value should I uphold? Emotion should I embrace? Habit should I develop? Desire should I nurture? etc*)
4. Discuss as few or as many questions as best fits your group’s current context and present stage in life.
5. Before ending your group session, allocate some time (15-20 min) to pray with and for one another.

## Discussion Questions

1. From your review of the sermon and your reading of the Scripture passage, recap the key points of this sermon.

### Signs and wonders pointing to God's Kingdom

Signs and wonders were happening through the hands of the apostles. The miracles were not attributed to the apostles but to the power of God and God chose to demonstrate his power through the apostles. Even Peter's shadow was used by God to draw a person through faith to Jesus. The healing and deliverance led many people to God and many came together all with one accord.

The popularity of the apostles, their highly-visible good works, and most of all, their proclamation of the good news of Jesus the Risen Messiah – all these threatened the religious establishment and led to the apostles' imprisonment. But an angel of the Lord set them free, commanding them to stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life. This brazen public appearance in the temple to preach the gospel of Christ demonstrated God's power to deliver his servants and the powerlessness of the Jewish religious leaders to restrain the advancement of God's Kingdom. God delivered the apostles in order to continue his Kingdom work.

2. Think back to supernatural signs and wonders have you seen which were performed by the Holy Spirit.
  - a) How did you feel and respond, and how did it impact your faith?
  - b) As a group, consider and discuss what are some healthy and unhealthy responses to the supernatural work of the Spirit?

3. As a CG, list 3-5 ways that the Church is challenging the status quo of the world today.

Do any of these make you feel uncomfortable? Does the discomfort arise:

(i) from an uncertainty whether such a cause is indeed Scripturally and theologically sound? Or,

(ii) from your own subjective personal preferences or background? Or,

(iii) from a recognition that breaking out of the status quo in submission to God, will require a painful and costly sacrifice of obedience on your part?

4. When the apostles stepped out in obedience to God to bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ, it was God who opened opportunities, and who empowered them with right words and right acts. It was also God who ultimately brought forth the fruit from their witness.

a) Take turns to describe the “prison” or obstacle that holds you back from bearing witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ. (This may look different for each individual in your CG.)

b) What would it look like for God to open those prison doors for you?

### **Prayer Items**

5. Pray for one another, that we would be empowered by God to live out the specific areas of application and transformation raised during the discussion time. Pray also for any needs that were mentioned.