

## Growth Group study Prayer week 5

Acts 4:1-35 with a focus on v23-35

Update & Pray: Last week we named some people we're in contact with – that they might take a step towards God / into saving faith in Christ. Any news to share? Pray for these people.

Warm up: Does God's being in control of all things lead you to pray or lead you to not pray?

As we seek to grow in prayer, this week we're considering the connection between God's authority and control (his sovereignty) and our response in our prayers. How are they related?

**Pray & Read Acts 4:1-35** (a long chapter – we'll focus on the prayer in the middle v24-30).

1. What catches your interest in this chapter?
2. From this long chapter, summarise in bullet point form the main events.
3. What is the main point of conflict between the Apostles and the Sanhedrin? (eg v2, v17-18).
4. How does God's plan to save happen according to this chapter? (eg v11-12, 19-20).
5. When God's plan is under attack, what do the believers do in our chapter?
6. Is it a better reason to pray because of immediate need? or because of habit?
7. What do the believers affirm is true about God in vv24-28??
8. According to v28-29 what is the connection between human decision & action and God's plan?
9. So, do human actions matter in the fulfilling of God's plan? If yes, in what way?
10. How does this chapter train us to pray? (e.g. that his will be done, e.g. that we live in the ways that he plans for us etc. Because such things are *able to be used by God to achieve his plan*).

*[big idea of this study: God's sovereignty does not lead us away from prayer but into prayer. We take heart from his authority, control and power, and call out to Him to act]*