



Transformation

 westchurch

¹ And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them,

² greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

³ And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening.

⁴ But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

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.

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

⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them,

“Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹ if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, 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.

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

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.”

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.

¹⁴ But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.

¹⁵ But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another,

¹⁶ saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it.

¹⁷ But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.”

¹⁸ So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

¹⁹ But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, ²⁰ for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”

²¹ And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened.

²² For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

²³ When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them.

²⁴ And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said,

“Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, ²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

“Why did the Gentiles rage,
and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶ The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers were gathered together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed’—

²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered
together against your holy servant Jesus, whom
you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate,
along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,
²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your plan had
predestined to take place.

²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,

³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

—Acts 4:1-31



Transformation

 westchurch

Transformation

Lives transformed
by the grace of God
through the gospel of
Jesus Christ
boldly proclaimed

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.

—Acts 4:10

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.

—Acts 4:13

Transformation

Lives changed **by** God

Changing lives **with** God

Transformation

1. We always start with the Good News:
The power of God to change and heal lives.

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.**

—Acts 4:13

24 And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said,
“Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them...
—Acts 4:24

Transformation

2. We expect to see God's power manifest in our midst.

¹⁵ But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another,
¹⁶ saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them **is evident to all** the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and **we cannot deny it.**

—Acts 4:15-16

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.”

—Acts 4:12



When people meet someone from the West Church community

Transformation

 westchurch

Transformation

Enjoying God's
Transforming Presence
For The Sake of Others

¹⁸ And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

—2 Corinthians 3:18

“Our transformation comes not by the strength of our resolve or by the diligence of our spiritual discipline or by the quality of our religious practices; rather it is the gracious work of Christ, who by his Spirit is drawing us to himself and transforming us into his image.”

—Gordon Smith



Transformation

3. When we encounter Jesus, and experience his love in our real lives, this is where transformation occurs.

Transformation

We will know that transformation is occurring among us on an individual level, when we **hunger** to be more and more like Christ.

“The process of being formed in the image of Christ takes place primarily at the points of our unlikeness to Christ’s image. [...] God is involved with us in the most imprisoning bondage of our brokenness. God meets us in those places of our lives that are most alienated from God.”

—M. Robert Mulholland



“God is there, in grace, offering us the forgiveness, the cleansing, the liberation, the healing we need to begin the journey toward wholeness and fulfillment in Christ.”

—M. Robert Mulholland



²⁴ Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

²⁵ **Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.**

²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

—John 12:24-26

39 Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

—Matthew 10:39

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

—Matthew 5:6

Transformation

Lives transformed
by the grace of God
through the gospel of
Jesus Christ
boldly proclaimed



Transformation

 westchurch