



## Discussion Questions • Abbotsford

### Title of Sermon: The Right Side of History

Passage: Acts 4:23-30 NIV

1. What kinds of things do you worry about the most? Why?
2. How have you dealt with the worries you have? What practices have you put into place to help you not worry?
3. When in your life have you been the least worried? Why?

### Sermon Points -

1. God is Sovereign
  - a. Do you believe God is in control of all created things? What kinds of problems arise in your mind if you say that he is? What kinds of problems arise if you say he isn't?
  - b. In the movie *Bruce Almighty* the main character takes on the power of God for a period of time and he can manipulate everything, even moving the moon closer to the earth for the sake of his girlfriend. But, he cannot change the heart of his girlfriend toward him. Is this the way it works with God?
    - i. Can God change the hearts of people toward him?
    - ii. What limits his sovereignty, if anything?
    - iii. How do passages like Job 42:1-2 and Daniel 4:34-35 add to this discussion?
  - c. What does it mean in Acts 4:28 that the religious leaders, who were opposing Peter and John, were only doing what God had determined they would do?
    - i. Does this mean that their decisions were determined by God? Why or why not?
    - ii. Read what Peter says about the crucifixion of Jesus in Acts 2:23. How do his words add to this discussion? Did God want the religious leader to crucify Jesus?
  - d. Read the prayer of the early church in Acts 4:24-30.
    - i. What in the early part of the prayer leads to the boldness at the end?
    - ii. Why do you think these people responded to the serious threats of the religious leaders with a prayer for boldness?



## 2. What Happens When You Believe God is Sovereign

- a. If you knew that no matter what happened today, you would wake up tomorrow morning healthy and well, what would you do? How does the security of knowing the future motivate you for the present?
- b. How does the knowledge of God's sovereign control over the world and his special commitment to his children give you confidence in your life now? How does it affect your worries?
- c. In light of God's sovereign care for us, why do we continue to worry? What can we do to overcome our worries?

### **Wrap Up and Prayer**

From your discussion, what resonated with you individually or as a group? Was there anything not discussed that stuck out to you from the sermon? Pray for each other along with other requests.

### **Benediction** - 1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV

*"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."*