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Everyone can reach someone.

&

Everyone should reach someone.

A passionate pursuit of those who don't follow Jesus and a deep desire to see them follow Jesus is at the epicenter of what it means to **follow Jesus**.

A passionate pursuit of those who don't follow Jesus and a deep desire to see them follow Jesus is at the epicenter of what it means to **be the church**.

.... on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Matthew 16:18 NIV

The Church is a group of
people who have been
invited in and sent out.

Love God

Love People

Make Disciples

50 Days Later 33 A.D.
The Church is Launched

God has raised this Jesus to
life, and we are all **witnesses** of
it.

Acts 2:32 NIV

Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great **boldness**.

Acts 4:29 NIV

Stretch out your hand to heal
and perform **signs and wonders**
through the name of your holy
servant Jesus.”

Acts 4:30 NIV

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 God **boldly**.

Acts 4:31 NIV

Boldness is seizing or creating
an opportunity to say or do
something when it would be
easier to say or do nothing.

Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the **good news** that Jesus is the Messiah.

Acts 5:42 NIV

If it doesn't sound like good news
then we are not telling it right.

35 A.D.

The 1st Persecution Begins

And Saul approved of their killing him. On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout **Judea and Samaria.**

Acts 8:1 NIV

36 A.D.

Saul is Converted

57 A.D.

A Known Christian in
Rome's Senatorial Class

For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all **boldness** and without hindrance!

Acts 28:30-31 NIV

66 & 67 A.D.

Apostles Paul and Peter are
martyred for their faith

112 A.D.

Pliny writes to Trajan

“There is no people, Greek or barbarian, or of any other race... whether they dwell in tents or wander about in covered wagons—among whom prayers and thanksgivings are not offered in the name of the crucified Jesus to the Father and Creator of all things.”

Justin Martyr 150 A.D.

“We are but of yesterday, and yet we already fill your cities, islands, camps, your palace, senate and forum; we have left to you only your temples.”

Tertullian 200 A.D.

“It may be fairly asserted, that about the end of the third century the name of Christ was known, revered, and persecuted in every province and every city of the empire.”

Philip Schaff

Nero, Domitian, Trajan,
Marcus Aurelius,
Septimius Severus,
Decius, Diocletian

*Persecuted The Church & Failed
66-305 A.D.*

Once upon a time there was a
version of our faith that prayed
for **boldness**, expected **the**
miraculous, lived with
fearlessness, and became
known for **faithfulness**.

What will be said about
our version of faith?

When you pray for boldness,
expect the miraculous.
Live with fearlessness. It
leads to faithfulness.