IT'S TIME TO STAND UP AND SPEAK OUT!

Four Actions That Empowered Peter and John To Stand Up and Speak Out For Christ: (Acts 4)

1. THEY SPENT TIME WITH JESUS.

(Acts 4:13 NIV) When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

2. THEY WERE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.

(Acts 4:8-10 NIV) Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! 9 If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, 10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

The Spirit of the LORD will come powerfully upon you, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. 1 Samuel 10:6 NIV

(Ephesians 5:18-20) And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

3. THEY STAYED PLUGGED INTO CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

(Acts 4:23-24 NIV) On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them.

4. THEY STAYED COMMITTED TO CORPORATE PRAYER.

On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. (Acts 2:42) They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

(Acts 4:29-31 NIV) Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."31 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 17:6 NKJV) "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.