

“The Resilient Faith Of Joyful Disciples”

Acts 5:18-41 & Selected Scriptures

*Joy for a Christian is the deeper realism of a resilient faith in Jesus.
Whatever happens in life, hold fast to Christ.*

I. RESILIENT FAITH HOLDS FAST EVEN WHEN THE WAYS OF GOD ARE MYSTERIOUSLY UNPREDICTABLE.

A. Sometimes God shows up in spectacular ways, sometime he seems to works in subtle and natural ways, and sometimes it might even *seem* to us as if he doesn't show up at all.

- 1. Sometimes God shows up in spectacular ways.*
- 2. Sometimes God shows up in more subtle ways.*
- 3. Sometimes it might even seem to us as if God is strangely silent.*

B. There is no clear pattern as to how God will work that can lead you to predictable expectations.

- 1. Jail.*
- 2. Death.*
- 3. Power.*
- 4. Mystery*

II. RESILIENT FAITH HOLDS FAST BY HOLDING ON TO THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL.

A. They believed God had revealed his love in a profound way. *That's what we need to see and believe.*

B. They believed God had revealed his power in a profound way. *That's what we need to see and believe.*

CONCLUSION:

Philippians 1:29, *For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake.*