

Are You Recognized?

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[0 : 00] Amen. Tonight we're going to be in Acts chapter 4.

They have lived with him. They have dwelt among Christ. They've learned through him. They have witnessed the things that he has done. They have listened to the sermons that he has taught. And they dwelt there. Okay? And so they spent this time day by day with Christ. They witnessed his prayer life with the Father and his obedience to the Lord God. They got to see all of these things firsthand.

Well, Jesus said to them that I am going to leave you. Okay? I am going to be crucified. And they didn't understand at that moment in time. But sure enough, it happens.

[1 : 15] Jesus Christ dies. He is crucified. Now, he lays down his life freely and willingly. Finally, the Jews didn't kill him. The Romans didn't kill him.

Our sins put him on the cross. That is the reason why he died. He freely laid down his life. But he also gave them the prophecy that he will return.

Right? Three days later. And sure enough, three days later, Christ returns. And he dwells among the disciples. And so they get to see him and be with him.

And then he goes and he's going to ascend to the Father. And he gives them a command. He says, go to Jerusalem and wait to the day of Pentecost.

And another helper I'm going to give you. The funny thing is, is they obeyed, didn't he? They went to Jerusalem. And they waited.

[2 : 11] And sure enough, the day of Pentecost has come. And they received the Holy Spirit. Now, the time that Acts starts here, it is only days.

It is only moments after the Holy Spirit is given to them that the church is born. And just moments after the Holy Spirit comes to them, Peter goes out and he does something.

What does he do? He preaches. He preaches this message. And if you'll turn back with me to Acts chapter 2, verse 41, we find the result of Peter's preaching.

And it says there, and so then, those who had received his word were baptized. And the day, they were added about 3,000 souls.

So just moments after the church has been given birth, the church has started, 3,000 souls come to Christ. And he goes on to say that they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching.

[3 : 14] They go to house to house. They're breaking bread with one another. They're having fellowship here with one another. And day by day, it says in verse 47, day by day, the Lord was adding to their number the souls that were being saved.

Not only those 3,000 souls have been saved, but day by day, souls are being saved. Chapter 3 comes and talks about this famous story about the lame man.

Now, if you've been in church at all, you've heard this story, especially if you've grown up in Sunday school. This is a cool story. Everybody knows the story of this lame man, don't they?

Here we have this man who is approximately 40 years old. He has never been able to walk. He has to sit and he has to beg. Okay, for money and for food.

Okay, and so here he is. He is sitting there. He is begging. Peter and John pass by. And the famous words are, gold and silver have I not, but what I have I give you in the name of Jesus.

[4 : 22] What? Rise up and walk. That's what he tells them. And it says there in verse 7. And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up.

And immediately his feet and ankles were strengthened. They commanded him. What we have we give you. Rise and walk.

They reached down. They grabbed him. And immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened. Verse 8, it goes on and says this. This is what I find fascinating.

With a leap he stood. He didn't just rise up, my friends. He leaps up. He stood upright and began to walk. And he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.

That's right. If you were a kid, you sung that song, didn't you? Walking and leaping and praising God. This is the story that it came from. And so this is what has happened at this time.

[5 : 28] Now, people know this man. He has been there begging for such a long time. They recognized him. And this man thought that he was this way because of either, A, his sins that he has done, or his family sins of what they have done.

So he is crippled, thinking that it is because of sin. And all of a sudden, he is made well. He is walking. He is leaping. He is praising God.

And he is not going to leave the apostle's side. It's an amazing story. And so here they go. They're in the temple. Probably for the first time, on his own power at least.

And so here he is. He's walking in the temple. Now, people start gathering around. Okay? They know this man. They've seen him for years.

Peter also notices the people gathering around. So what does Peter do? That's right. He preaches again. Okay?

[6 : 29] And so he goes here and he gives this next sermon. And if you will turn to Acts 4-4. This is the result of the sermon.

But many of those who heard the message believed. And the number of men came to be about 5,000.

5,000 men were saved that day. So with just days old, I'm talking about the church, being days old, we have minimum 8,000 souls come to Christ.

This is exciting, isn't it? This is good news. But not everybody thinks so, do they? We have a group there who doesn't like this because in verses 1-3 of chapter 4, which we skipped over, the apostles are arrested.

Okay? They don't like what is happening. You have 8,000 souls minimum who have turned their backs to Judaism and have been saved by the grace of God.

[7 : 37] We say amen and we shout hallelujah. But they did not. They arrest them. So this is where we are going to join our story. And we're going to be here in Acts chapter 4 verses 5-13.

And if you're taking notes, I titled it, Are You Recognized? And so this is where we're going to be. Before we get there, I'm going to pray for us. Dear Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank You for salvation in Your Son, Jesus Christ.

We're thankful that You've sent Him and opened our eyes and so that we who are blind can now see and we now can have this freedom in You. Be with us tonight.

Just be with me in the words that I speak. May they be Yours. It's in Your name we pray. Amen. Alright, so here in verse 5 is where we're going to start at.

It says here, On the next day, the rulers and elders and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem. Alright, so it talks about these rulers, elders and scribes.

[8 : 41] Now, this is the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin is a 71-membered council. This is the elite of the elite of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Those are two religious groups of the time. This is your supreme court. Okay, this group right here can do almost, almost anything to you.

They decide your fate, whatever it may be. Okay, and so they are the ruling sector of Israel. What they say goes.

Okay, and so this is that group. And so it says on the next day, they had to spend the night in jail. Because the Sanhedrin didn't have enough time to get together.

So they sat there overnight. So this next day, they are going to meet the Sanhedrin. They're going to be brought in front of. And verse 6 says, So again, not only are the Sanhedrin there who everybody knew who they were.

[9 : 53] Okay, they knew them by their recognition, by the names that they had, who they were. They were well known. It was a very intimidating factor to go in front of the Sanhedrin.

Okay, they had authority. They had power and reputation behind them. And then there's the high priest, former high priest, and future high priest all there with them.

This is not a fun place to be. Okay, I mean, I don't know about you, but this isn't being judged by 12 peers you don't know. This is being judged by the elite of the elite who you do know. Okay, and to have the power to do whatever.

And so here, they are brought in and they're placed in front of them. Verse 7 says this, And when they had placed them in the center, they began to acquire. By what power or in what name have you done this? Now, it says here, in verse 7, that they placed them in the center.

[10:59] They're going to have this little discussion. They want to get to the root of what they're viewing as a problem. Of all these souls who are turning from Judaism and now coming to Christ.

They want to understand how this lame man was able to walk. And so they're viewing this as a problem. So they bring them in the center among them.

And so again, this is another intimidation factor. Having this group of people, large group of people with well reputations around them. And then it says here, it says that they begin to inquire.

Now, let me tell you something. When God does a work, there will always be questions. Always be questions. Here in this point and case, people are being saved.

Souls are being reached for Christ. Okay, and now let me tell you something. We do not need to be afraid of questions. Questions themselves are not bad. They're not evil. They're good, especially when they're talking about salvation.

[12:08] Those are good questions to have. So we don't need to fear questions. Questions are good. The Sanhedrin had a question.

And they were going to ask them. And here, the question that they ask, I have to say, is an excellent question. The question they had, it will get to the root of what they viewed as the problem. And so I love this question that they go and they ask. And the question is this. By what power or in what name have you done this?

This is the question that was asked them. Now again, that can be an intimidating feeling.

I can only imagine. I try to put myself there. But let me tell you something. Our military, I am very thankful for our military and the weapons that they have.

[13:12] Starting from the simple. I mean, just the rifles that shoot straight. Okay, the sniper rifles that we have. Okay, and the missile systems that we have are just absolutely phenomenal.

Not only do we have missiles that when we think of missiles, they shoot, they hit, they explode. Yes, we have those. But our missiles go way far beyond that. We have missiles that can shoot over 3,000 miles and hit with pinpoint accuracy.

To me, that's amazing. They can weave in between buildings and hit the target. That's phenomenal. We also have some missiles that can hit, drive through, and then explode.

Whether it be in a building, underground, whatever. We have missiles that will fly over a wall and burst downward to get people behind a wall. This is absolutely phenomenal in my mind.

We have tanks. The M1A1 tank goes 60 miles an hour across the sand, fire with accuracy. That's amazing. That's a fast-moving tank. We have helicopters.

[14:18] The AH Apache helicopter. Here it no longer has the heat-seeking missiles, but it has sight-guided missiles. So wherever that pilot looks, that's where the missile goes.

That is phenomenal. And I'm very thankful that our military has such weapons. But let me tell you something. All of these weapons have a purpose.

Have the same purpose. And it is used for destruction. It is used to end life, to kill, to destroy. That is what those weapons are used for.

There is a weapon that is much more powerful, but is used for a total different purpose. The most powerful weapon out there brings the dead to life.

And that is Jesus Christ. And we, those who are believers, have that weapon inside of them. We're going to find here, when they are asked the question, that they are not afraid.

[15:22] Peter's not afraid to give them an answer. And he's going to tell them about this weapon. And about this name, Jesus Christ.

But let me tell you something. When we, as a church, we start becoming doers of the Word and not hearers only, as James says. And if we, as a church, we start praying for boldness, as they do at the end of chapter 4.

And if we, as a church, we become obedient to the Word of God. And if we, as a church, start following after God's will, we will see God move.

We will see the power of God. I believe in the power of the Holy Spirit. And I believe it still exists today. I believe this wholeheartedly.

But we have got to tap into that power. If we're not spending time with God, will we have that kind of access?

[16:23] You see, if we start doing those things, I believe we will see people get saved. This is what is happening right here. They are filled with the Holy Spirit.

They are living the will of God. They are doing what He desires. And they are seeing the outcome, which is the salvation of people.

If that actually happens, people will ask us the same question. By what power and by what name have you done this?

This is the question here that was asked to them. And I'm going to read 8 to 12 for us. Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, rulers and elders of the people, if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as how this man has been made well, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ, the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God has raised from the dead, by this name, this man stands before you in good health.

He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, by which became the chief cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else.

[17:45] For there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved. Starts off and he says, or the Bible says, Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit.

Now today we associate being filled with the Holy Spirit as in speaking in tongues. But let me tell you something. Today I say, being filled with the Holy Spirit does not mean speaking in tongues, but it means controlling the tongue that you already have.

This is what happens here. Okay, Peter's tongue was controlled by the Holy Spirit. And so he was filled with the Holy Spirit. And I believe today we can be filled with the Holy Spirit.

And he says to them, Let me tell you something. Those three words are vitally important. Said to them. Now you may look and say, Well, I really don't see the importance of those three words.

They are insignificant. They don't mean much. You've got to remember the Sanhedrin and the high priests. They have them on trial, don't they?

[19:04] Well, when the Bible says this, He is going to put them on trial.

He is putting them on trial. He is putting them on trial. He is putting them on trial. And he is going to tell them.

And he is going to give them the gospel message. And now they are going to have to have a response of some sort. And they do. But he is putting them on trial.

So here we have Peter filled with the Holy Spirit. Says to them, Rulers and elders of the people. If we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man.

As how this man has been made well. If we are here for this reason. That this man was lame. And now walks.

[20:08] I am going to answer the question. You ask the question. What is the question? That is right. By what power or in what name have you done this?

Peter is going to answer this very question. And he is going to start out broad. But he is going to dial it in very, very fast. Very quickly. And so he says here in verse 10.

Let it be known to all of you. And to all the people of Israel. Israel. Not only do you of the Sanhedrin. But of everyone of Israel.

That the name of Jesus. Peter could have stopped right there. The Sanhedrin knew which Jesus they were talking about.

There were other people named Jesus at the time. But Peter could have stopped there. But Peter does not stop there. He wants them to be absolutely sure.

[21:12] By what power or by what name this man was made well. And so he says. Let it be known to you. And all the people of Israel. That by the name of Jesus Christ.

The Nazarene. So he is getting more and more specific here. And so he says. Jesus Christ.

The Nazarene. Now do you understand. I can see him looking there. Do you understand who I am talking about? Okay. And so here. But just to make sure. Just in case you are not clear of who I am talking about.

Jesus Christ. The Nazarene. Whom you have crucified. Now do we understand. Now do you know by what power and by what name.

But just in case. We still don't have a clue. He says. By the name of Jesus Christ. The Nazarene. Whom you crucified. And whom God has raised.

[22 : 15] From the dead. He wanted to be absolutely positive. That the Sanhedrin knew. That it is by the name of Jesus Christ. And Jesus Christ alone.

That this man was able to walk. And he says there. He finishes off the verse. And he says. By this name. This man.

Stands before you. In good health. Now. Of course he is speaking to a bunch of rabbis. Who know the law. They grow up.

They grew up in it. They teach it. Okay. They have learned it. They. They pat themselves by. Obeying. The law. And so here in verse 11.

He is going to. Quote. Scripture to them. Okay. He is going to. Make sure. They understand this. Scripture. And he is going to quote. Psalms 118.

[23 : 09] 22. So in verse 11. It says this. He. Meaning Jesus. What he just got done. Talking about. Is the stone. Which was rejected. By.

You. He added those words in there. By the way. By you. Okay. And so here. He is the stone. Rejected by you. The builders. But which.

Became. The chief. Cornerstone. You see. Everything. Is plumb. On Jesus Christ. Okay. Jesus Christ. Is that. Plumb line.

All right. And he wanted them. To understand. That they have. Rejected him. That they are the ones. Who have crucified him. They have. Rejected Christ. And yet. It is Christ.

That everything. Is built upon. And it is by this. Name. This man. Is made well. Now. In first. Peter. Chapter 2. He expands.

[24 : 05] On this one. Verse. Matter of fact. Takes five verses. To say. What he just said. In that one. So first. Peter 2. Four through eight. There. He goes and describes.

Those verses. And I'll let you look that up. On your own time. But he expands. Upon that. And later. In life. And he says. In verse 12. And there is.

Salvation. In no one else. For there is. No other name. Under heaven. That has been given. Among men. By which. We. Must. Be. Saved.

Man. Here he goes. And he says. Talks about the exclusiveness. Of salvation. By faith. In Jesus. Christ. And it is not by works. Now they believe.

That they could. Work their way. Into heaven. They believe. That if they observed. The law. Enough. They were. Good enough. Then they could. Enter into. Everlasting.

[24 : 58] Life. With. God. The father. This is what they believe. Doesn't sound. Very different. From today. Does it? You go out there. On the streets. You talk to someone.

Well. I believe. That you ask them. Where they're going to go. Heaven or hell. They say. Well. I believe. That I've been. Mostly good. I do. More good. Than I do. Bad. Therefore. God is going to. Allow me. Into heaven. Things haven't changed. Have they? Okay. We still have. A work salvation. About us today. Ephesians 2. 8. 9.

Talks against. Work salvation. What is by grace. That you are saved. Through faith. This. Not of yourselves. Talking about the faith. This.

Not of yourselves. It is the gift of God. Not by works. So that no one can boast. You see. If I can work my way. Into heaven. Then I can boast.

[25 : 52] About my salvation. I don't need the cross. If I can work my way. Into heaven. The cross. Would mean nothing. If I could get there. On my own. Well here.

The fact is this. The fact is. There is no other way. To everlasting life. It is only. Jesus. Christ. There are not many. Ways.

Many destinations. Many paths. To heaven. There is only one. And it is Jesus Christ. And if we have a problem. With that. You can be mad at me. But. I am just the messenger.

You need to talk to the Lord. Jesus Christ. About this. I am just repeating. What he has said. There is salvation. In no one else. For no other name.

Under heaven. Has been given. Among men. By which. We must. Be saved. You see. Jesus Christ. Is the only one. Who has satisfied. The wrath of God.

[26 : 48] On our behalf. John Piper. Wrote a book. Called concise theology. I mean. If you don't like to read. This is a book for you. It's 50 chapters. But the pages.

The chapters. Only two pages. I mean. It's a hundred page book. Okay. So if you don't like to read. Don't like to read. Very much at a time. Guarantee. You can down. A bunch of chapters. In one little evening.

But the first one. I think it's the first chapter. I may be wrong. But one of the chapters. I think it's the first. Is how. Jesus is the one. Who has satisfied. The wrath of God. On our behalf.

Okay. It is only Jesus Christ. Who has done that. This is why. He is the only way. Any way. To everlasting life. Verse 13.

Before we get there. I have to say that. This is one of my favorite verses. I love this verse. I like a lot of verses in scripture. So I don't have. A favorite.

[27 : 44] But this is. This is very high. In the ranking. And. There are many things. That we can take. From this verse.

Let me read it real quick. It says. As they observed. The confidence. Of Peter and John. And understood. That they were. Uneducated. And untrained men. They were amazed. And began to recognize.

Them as having been. With Jesus. Now let me tell you something. There are four things. That the Sanhedrin. Is going to do. Okay. So there are four things.

Number one. They're going to. Understand. Something. Okay. So they're going to understand. Something. They're going to observe. Something else. They're going to be. Amazed.

And then. Fourthly. They're going to recognize. Something. Now I'm going to go through these. One at a time. I chose to start in the middle. Of the verse. Instead of at the beginning. So there.

[28 : 38] Number one. They. Understood. Something. What did they understand? What does the verse say? Understood what? They understood.

That they were. Uneducated. And untrained. And untrained. Men. Right? Okay. And so here. It says. They understood this. Now. To understand. Means to know.

Without a shadow. Of a doubt. It is. Factual. Okay. And so this is what this word means. It is factual. They. Understood. This. That they were.

Untrained. And uneducated. Men. Now. How did they understand this? Okay. You may ask that. And well. I can imagine. There's many ways. Number one.

They didn't look. Like a rabbi. The way. Their appearance. They didn't look. Have the look of a rabbi. Okay. And so. Also. What it means here.

[29 : 35] Is that they didn't finish rabbi school. Okay. They washed out. They flunked out of rabbi school. They couldn't make it. Okay. And so. They understood that by their appearance. What they wore.

That they were uneducated. Untrained. They probably could tell by their speech pattern. They're not educated. Okay. And so. This. They understood. Without a shadow of a doubt.

That they are uneducated. And they are. Untrained. These guys are a bunch of. In their eyes. Flunkies. Okay. They couldn't. Make it. Now.

What can we learn. From this. Now. I would say. That. There's not a lot of people in here. Who have theological degrees.

I know there is some. Okay. But there's probably not a whole lot. Who have theological degrees. Am I right? Okay. I am right. I know there's a couple.

[30 : 30] But hey. That means. That since they haven't graduated rabbi school. They were uneducated and untrained. So if we don't have a theological degree. Then. We are also considered. Uneducated and.

Untrained. In. The law of God. I guess. Okay. And so here. If we don't have a theological degree. What can we take from this? We can still be used by God.

Okay. They were uneducated. They were fishermen and tax collectors. Which were. Scum. Okay. They were the scum of the earth. Tax collector was. Okay. And here. The. Jesus Christ chose 12 disciples.

None of them were of great reputation. And here he makes them. And he. They follow him. They give up everything. To follow him. And here.

These uneducated and untrained. Trained men. Are doing. The work. Of God. If you are untrained. And uneducated. You.

[31 : 30] Can do. The work of God. Okay. And so here. This is something that we can take. From this. And so this is what they understood. Now they also observe something.

And that's at the very beginning. Of the verse. What did they observe? That's right. Boldness. They observe boldness. Boldness or confidence. Okay.

And so this. Is what. They have. Observed. Now. Where did they get this. Boldness. And confidence.

That's right. Holy Spirit. They got it from the Holy Spirit. Verse 8. Peter then. Or then Peter. Filled. With the Holy Spirit. Said.

To them. So they observe. This boldness. Of them. This confidence. That they had. And. And they. They. This is one of the.

[32 : 27] This is the first thing. It says happened. They observed this. Of Peter and John. And understood them. That they were uneducated. And untrained. You see. This can also tell us.

That if we are uneducated. And untrained. That we also can have. The boldness of God. Within our lives. Okay. And we can be. Used as tools.

For God. And then we have. They were amazed. We see this. In the. In the verse. After they were uneducated. And untrained. Men.

They. Were. Amazed. Okay. So we have. The Sanhedrin. We have the. Elite. Of the elite. The supreme court. Here they are.

Amazed. Now. Why? We got to ask ourselves. Why? Why? Why? Was. The Sanhedrin. The ruling body. Of Israel.

[33 : 23] Who has all the authority. All the power. Why? Were they amazed? Because here we had. Common folk. Hey.

Had an Oklahoma accent on that. Did you catch it? Common folk. Okay. Here we had. Common people. Common people. Speaking. With authority.

Having confidence. Having boldness. And by this. They. Were. Amazed.

The other reason why they were amazed. Is because the Sanhedrin. Did not have. This passion. They didn't have this. Boldness.

This confidence. That these guys have. Well Scott. How do you know? Turn over with me to chapter 5. Verse 26.

[34 : 23] They have been released by this point in time. They have been re-arrested. The angel of the Lord has come and freed them from their jail cell. They go to get them the next day.

They're not there. The prison is locked up tight. Like Fort Knox. And yet they are not in the midst of them. But instead. They are in. The synagogue. Teaching.

The people. Which is by the way. Is what the Lord God told them to do. And so they go back out there. To the synagogue. To. Re-re-arrest them.

If that's even a word. Re-arrest them again. And so verse 26 of chapter 5 says. The captain went along with the officers. And proceeded to bring them back.

Without violence. For they were afraid of the people. That they might be stoned. They didn't have this confidence. Okay.

[35 : 20] They didn't have this passion. That these men had. And this is the whole reason why. They were absolutely. Amazed. By.

The disciples here. But then last. It mentions something. Probably most important. Says that they recognized.

Something. What did they recognize? What does it say? Right there. Recognize. That they had. Been.

With. Jesus. Wow. How many of us. Have been. With Jesus. How many of us. Been with Jesus. Okay.

Let's be careful here. How we answer. Because. Your boldness. Your confidence. Is going to show us. Whether or not. We have.

[36 : 17] Been. With Jesus. Are you bold? Are you confident. In your faith? You see. This is not a one time deal.

It's not a one time event. Where Christ comes into your life. That is great. I'm not downplaying that at all. That is great. But in the introduction. These disciples. They spent their lives.

With Christ. Day. By day. By day. They learned. From him. They sought his teachings. They saw his. Prayer life. To the Lord. Jesus Christ.

They saw. How he was. Obedient. Are we that way? Do we have. Our daily Bible study?

Do we have. That prayer life? Do we. Seek. God. Have you prayed. The prayer. Lord. Here I am.

[37 : 12] I am. But clay. In your hands. Mold me. Make me. Use me. To your will. Do we do that? Do we want to be used. By God. In such a fashion.

I would say. That many of us. Have not. But you know what? There is always. A starting point. It is never too late. Never too late.

You see. It says there. That they. Recognize. That they had been. With. Jesus. I don't know about you.

But I want to be known. As that boy right there. That guy. Has been. With Jesus. But in order to do that.

I have to spend time. In God's word. I have to have. A prayer life. I have to spend. Life. Time. On my knees. I have to humble myself.

[38 : 12] We have to do that. And if we do that. Can almost guarantee you. I wish I could say. I guarantee you. I can almost guarantee you.

That you will see. The power. Of God. You will witness. God. Move. Now we live. In an era. Of today. Where our country. Seems to be going. Backwards. What was right. Is now wrong. What was wrong. Is now right.

Okay. And so here. Homosexuality. Is wrong. But today. It is the right. How have we done this? How have we gotten.

To this point? What? Because. You and I. Haven't been spending time. With Jesus. We haven't been.

[39 : 11] Recognized. This has got to change. We've got to want. To change. And I believe. That it can start.

Anywhere. At any time. You see Israel. We learn in the past. That they always. When they were with God. Things were great. Weren't they? God put a hedge. Of protection. Around them.

But as soon. As they. Left God. Took in these idols. What happened? God had a protection. Did what? Was gone. It was off.

And as soon. As they. Said. Lord God. They repented. Forgive us. We're sorry. We're wrong. What happened? Protection.

Came back upon him. Didn't they? We're. Right there. As a country. Today. We're at the point. Where God's fingers. Are going like this. His protection.

[40 : 09] Is off. Why? Because. We are. Idolaters. We're not. Spending that time. With Christ. But I say. We must change.

We must be the people. Who have. Recognized. That they have. Been. With. Jesus. And so. That's why I title it. Are you. Recognized. Are you.

The person. Who desires. To be. With the Lord God. And to do. His will. Now as a pastor. I've had. People. Come to me. And say. They're like.

Scott. I want to know. What God's will is. For my life. First of all. Excellent. That a boy. Okay. Good. I'm very happy. I'm very glad.

But I have a couple. Of questions. That I ask. Knowing what God's will. For your life. Is vitally important. Look at. Matthew 7. 21 to 24. Those who aren't.

[41 : 03] Following through. In God's will. They're not the ones. Who make it. To everlasting life. Okay. So it is vitally important. So I ask them some questions.

And I always say this. Are you having. Your Bible study daily. What's the answer. Nope. Okay. Do you have your own.

Personal prayer life. Nope. Do you desire. To be used by God. And that's usually mixed. Well. Of course I do. Well.

We can see. That by your answers. To A and B. That it is not. You see. We have to be. The people. Who decide.

That you know what. It is. My goal. To do. The father's will. It is my goal. That I am going to become. Obedient. To the Lord. God.

[41 : 57] When we do this. When we become. That church. I am telling you. Watch out. Things. Are going to happen. We are going to see.

Things like this. That happen in the book of Acts. We look at the book of Acts. And we are like. That is just. Well we don't say it is a fantasy book. That is just. That can't happen. Okay. Stuff like that.

Just. People. There are. 8,000 souls come to know Christ. In a couple of days. That is just.

Unfathomable. But I am telling you. If God is in the mix.

It can happen. It is possible. If we become. Excited. If we become. Passionate. As they have observed.

Okay. Verse 13. As they have observed. The confidence of Peter and John. And understood them. To be uneducated. And untrained men. They were amazed.

[42 : 53] And began to recognize them. As having been. With Jesus. It is my prayer. That we at Highland Park. Want to be this people. To be recognized. As being.

With Jesus. It is my prayer. Hopefully it is your prayer as well. I mean let me tell you something. These last three years. There has been a change.

In Highland Park. A good change. Okay. You guys. Are becoming. Mission minded. That is great. Okay. That is awesome. Now let's become.

People minded as well. Let's become. God will. Minded. As well. Let's become. Obedient. To the Lord. Jesus Christ.

Thank you.