

*"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus." Acts 4:13 KJV*

Man's first reaction to danger is flight. Soldiers rigidly train to stand and face the danger of enemy fire. Peter and John faced the same men that crucified Jesus and fearlessly accused them of killing the Messiah. What changed Peter from the man who lied to a maid at a midnight fire into a fearless proclaimer of Truth? The answer lies in the last line; *"They had been with Jesus."* Not just the Jesus who taught and suffered at the hands of His own, but the resurrected Christ who *"showed Himself...alive...by many infallible proofs."* They knew God's power over death and, as Paul later declared, their *"life was hid with Christ in God!"* The fear of death was forever removed! They knew *"Whom [they] had believed and [were] persuaded that He was able to keep that which [they] had committed unto Him!"* They would have feared everything had they not *"been with Jesus!"* Application of this Truth today, lies in daily meditation in God's Word. *"The Word was God andí the Word was made flesh!"* Two Truths we say we believe, but somehow fail to trust! God's Word can live in and through us by constant meditation, thinking, in Truth. *"This Book of the Law (God's Word) shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate (think) therein DAY AND NIGHT, that thou mayest observe to do according to ALL that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."* Are all your successes good? We do everything under the sun, but read our Bibles. How many times did you read yours yesterday? How many times throughout the day did you find yourself contemplating God's Word? Here are some ideas: Keep the TV remote on top of the TV and your Bible next to your chair. Keep another Bible next to your bed, another in your car, and a New Testament in your purse or pocket. Get a zipped cover for your New Testament and put your cell phone inside it or tape a Scripture verse to the front. Each time it rings, you'll be reminded! Time spent with God's Word is time spent with Jesus!



To boldly bring the Gospel forth,  
I must trust its entire Truth;  
That death no longer threatens me;  
For Jesus Christ hath made me free! ~CGP

What fear renders you *"ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ"* when you know full well that *"it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth?"* If you truly believe your *"life is hid in Christ with God,"* you'll be fearless. If death holds no threat, what is there to fear? Boldness is directly proportional to proximity to Jesus Christ. He IS the Word. The living, bodily manifested, written, Word of God! Without God's Word hidden in your heart, you become a vacillating, whimpering, sniveling, beaten, believer. Satan knows exactly where our power comes from and does his level best to keep us from it! His success evidenced by the believer's lack of influence on the ungodly world surrounding them! *ōAs many as received Him (Jesus), to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that BELIEVE on His name.ö* Do you believe? Are you powerless or fearless? Jesus predicted that *"the love (of God) of many shall wax cold!"* Has yours?

*"For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39 KJV*

