Unit 3: What the Bible Says About Obedience

Lesson 2: We Ought to Obey God Rather than Men (Acts 5: 12-42)

4th grade or Juniors

Performance Objectives:
1. The student will be able to recite Acts 5:29 with no more than two helps.
2. Tell at least one other person about salvation.

Materials Needed: Visualized poster for Acts 5:29, visualized posters for each song

Opening Activities:
Prayer
Sing “Obedience”
Introduce memory verse
Sing “I Will Do Right”
Sing “Always Abounding in the Work of The Lord”

Sequence of Activities:
A. Review and Motivation. Ask questions from last week’s lesson about Ephesians 6:1.
B. After Jesus had died, was buried, and rose again and when He had ascended back up into heaven, the disciples became known as apostles and began to go around telling everyone they could about Jesus. They had been given the power to heal those who were sick and everywhere they went, the people would bring the sick into the streets. They were hoping that at least the shadow of Peter passing by would touch them and they would be healed. Each and everyone were healed.

The high priest of the synagogue grew very angry when he heard what Peter and the other apostles were doing. The high priest had the apostles arrested and put into prison. But the angel of the Lord came in the night and opened the prison doors. The angel told them to go to the temple and preach about Jesus. The apostles obeyed and early in the morning they went to the temple and began teaching.

Meanwhile the high priest put a council together and they were going to have a trial. He sent to get Peter and the other apostles out of prison, but, of course, they were not there! The officers told the high priest, “The prison truly found we shut with all safety, and the keepers standing without before the doors: but when we had opened, we found no man within.” Then another man came in and told the high priest, “Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.”

The captain of the officers went to the temple and took Peter and the other apostles back to the high priest. The high priest asked them, “Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name (the name of Jesus)?”

Peter and the other apostles answered and said, “We ought to obey God rather than men.” They were not afraid of what the high priest was going to do to them. The high priest was so angry, he wanted to kill them, but a doctor named Gamaliel convinced him not to do so. The apostle were beaten and told again not to speak in the name of Jesus. But listen to verses 41 and 42. “They departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to
suffer shame for his name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”

C. The apostles obeyed what the angel of the Lord told them to do. They were supposed to preach the gospel wherever they went and they did. In Mark 16:15, we are also commanded to tell other about Jesus. “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” You can tell your neighbors about Jesus, you can tell the cashier at the grocery store or the waiter at the restaurant. Wherever you go, hand out tracts so people can know for sure that when they die they can go to heaven.

D. Teach Acts 5:29.

E. Show the class a tract and explain what it says and how it can be used.

*Evaluation:* The student will be able to recite Acts 5:29 with no more than two helps. Next week ask who told someone about Jesus or gave a tract to someone.