

Sermon Outline

Who's in Charge Series, Part 2: The Suffering Servant (Acts 4:23-31)

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Main Idea: In part 2 of our series Robin helps us to see that though God is Sovereign and in charge of all worldly affairs (see part 1, "God Rules!"), we have a significant part to play in his plans and purposes for our lives.

Sermon Outline:

1. The Setting (overview of Acts 1:1 through 4:23)
2. The Prayer (4:24-31)
 - I. The God of Creation (v24)
 - II. The God of Revelation (v25)
 - III. The God of History (v26-28)
3. The Answer (v31)

Key Text/Quotes:

"This Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised Him up..." Acts 2:23

"In the end they succeeded only in doing exactly what God's hand and God's plan had predestined to take place." Robin paraphrasing Acts 4:28

Fellowship Starters:

1. Read Acts 4:23-31 and open in prayer.
2. Open your discussion re-visiting Mark's message from Daniel 4 in which we are reminded that "God Rules!" What comfort are we to take from that reality?
3. Having re-iterated that truth in his opening comments, Robin went on to discuss how in the Lord's prayer, Jesus encourages us to pray. And yet God already knows what we need before we ask him. What was Robin's solution to this apparent dilemma?
4. Acts 4 and Peter's interaction with the Jewish leaders reveals the answer to this apparent dilemma. While God is completely sovereign, world events, as well as the mundane events of our own daily lives, are connected to human decisions and actions. Re-read the scripture and quote above and discuss the relevance to our own lives in light of this reality.
5. Robin concluded that in order for us to be faithful like the first disciples, we too need the following: fellowship with God, fellowship with others, and a boldness to speak the truth of the gospel in love.
6. Take time to pray for one another that we might be faithful to this calling.

