

## “How to Pray when Under Attack”

Acts 4:24-31

*A Church that obeys Jesus will be attacked by the enemy.*

### I. Opposition can give us a clearer awareness of the truth of

**scripture:** (They pray the scriptures to the Lord.)

**Acts 4:24–28** — <sup>24</sup> *And when they heard this, they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, “O Lord, it is You who made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them, <sup>25</sup> who by the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Your servant, said, ‘Why did the Gentiles rage, And the peoples devise futile things? <sup>26</sup> ‘The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together Against the Lord and against His Christ.’ <sup>27</sup> “For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, <sup>28</sup> to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur.”*

- A. God is all powerful. V24** -We know you are the Almighty Creator.
- B. God’s knows all things beforehand. V25** -As evidence by the words of the prophet...
- C. The efforts of the enemy are futile in the end. V25-26** -The peoples devise futile things against the Lord and against His Christ...
- D. God is in control of the situation. V27-28** -They do whatever your hand and your purpose predestine to occur...

### II. We learn how to pray according to the will God. How?

**Acts 4:29-31** *“And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence.*

#### A. Praying for protection -v29a

1. **God promise his people protection - Isaiah 54:17**— “No

*weapon that is formed against you will prosper; And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their vindication is from Me,” declares the Lord.*

2. Churches must gather to pray for protection.

#### B. Praying for bold obedience -v29b

1. Confidence does not come from self.
2. Confidence comes from the Lord.

#### C. Praying for continued display of God’s power (in Jesus’ name).

**-v30** *while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus.*

1. Use of the “holy name of Jesus” indicates Christian are engaging God’s help and healing over people in great need.
2. We need to pray boldly to unleash God’ power to glorify the name and fame of Jesus Christ.
3. We need to trust that God will do his part as we do our part.

### III. Results of Praying together in difficult times:

**-v31** *And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.*

#### A. Praying together brings encouragement.

1. **“shaken”** – means there was a seismic tremor in that very moment.

#### B. Praying together fills believer with the power of the Holy Spirit.

#### C. Praying together infuses Christians to speak with boldness.

**THINK, PRAY AND OBEY:**

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