

CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER LESSONS

PERSEVERANCE:

“PERSEVERING IN SERVING GOD”

Read Acts 5:12-42.]

Questions for discussion

1. Why were the apostles arrested?
2. What happened to them after they were arrested?
3. What did God do?
4. Why did the apostles start preaching again?
5. How did God protect the men who persevered in preaching?
6. How did Peter and the other apostles respond to the fact that they were punished for preaching the gospel?

Key concepts

The Pharisees were jealous of all the attention the people were giving to the apostles. They had them arrested and thrown in prison. Despite rather frightening circumstances, the apostles persevered in preaching the good news of God’s kingdom. They could have run from the potential trouble and justified leaving town by saying, “I will accomplish more for God by preaching in another town. What good is it if I stay in this town and end up dead?”

The apostles knew the safest thing was to do what God had asked them to do – to stay and preach the good news. Although they were in danger of being killed, the apostles stayed and preached, and God protected them. They rejoiced because they had the opportunity to suffer a whipping for the name of Jesus.