

# Understand your Bible

## Suggested notes

### Acts 4

#### What we will see in this chapter:

- What Peter told the rulers about the recent healing
- What the rulers did and the apostles' reply
- What the very early first-century church did with their possessions

#### 1 Read the chapter

#### 2 Questions to help us in our understanding of this chapter. Look at the chapter verses in your Bible and use the questions to help you make your notes.

Chapter verses	Questions (to help with your notes)	Suggested notes
1 to 4	1. What did the priests and Sadducees do to Peter and John and why?	The priests and Sadducees arrested Peter and John because they were teaching the resurrection from the dead.
5 to 7	2. What did the rulers do and what did they ask Peter and John?	They gathered together in Jerusalem and they asked Peter and John how they healed the man who had been lame from birth.
8 to 12 <i>Text note v 11: Peter quotes Psalm 118 v 22.</i>	3. What did Peter tell them in reply?	He told them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ they healed the man through the name of Jesus Christ whom the rulers crucified</li> <li>➤ that God had raised him from the dead</li> <li>➤ the only way to salvation was through the name of Jesus Christ</li> </ul>
13 to 18	4. What did the rulers say among themselves and what did they decide?	They couldn't deny that a notable miracle had happened. They decided to tell them to stop preaching to people.
19 to 22	5. What did Peter and John say in reply and what did the rulers do?	Peter and John asked them if they should listen to them rather than to God. They told them they would continue preaching. The rulers threatened them again and let them go.

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23 to 28  <i>*Text note v 25: They quote Psalm 2 v 1 and 2.</i>	6. What did the believers do and say when they heard what the chief priests and elders had told Peter and John?	They praised God and were encouraged that they had seen a fulfilment of *David's prediction that rulers would oppose the Lord and his Christ.
29 to 31	7. What did they ask the Lord to do?	They asked the Lord to see their threats, and help them to preach boldly and to heal through Jesus' name.
32 to 37	8. What did the very early believers do with their possessions?	They sold them and donated the money to a common fund to support the group of believers.

### 3 Related theme from v 12: *Our only hope of a long-term future is through Jesus Christ.*

Have a look at these related verses and see this theme in John's Gospel. Make a note of the main point(s) in the verse(s).

Verse(s)	Main point(s)
John 3 v 15 and 16	Those who believe in Jesus will have everlasting life.
John 6 v 40	It is God's will that anyone who believes in Jesus will be raised at the last day and have everlasting life.
John 20 v 30 and 31	The miracles performed by Jesus are proof that he is the Saviour for those who believe.