

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 5 12-32



All your works praise you, O Lord, and your faithful servants bless you.
They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your mighty power.
Psalm 145:10-11

Praising:

Great and wonderful your deeds,
God, from whom all power
proceeds:
true and right are all your ways –
who shall not give thanks and
praise?
To your name be glory!

Reading:

Acts 5:12-32
Arrested again

As the miracles continue to transform lives in Jerusalem, so the Christian community continues to grow – to the increasing annoyance of the high priest. The apostles' second stay in prison is cut embarrassingly short by the angel, especially when Peter and the others are discovered free and once more preaching publicly about Jesus. Suddenly the Jewish council are

conscious of a shift in public opinion and sympathy. And yet how can they really expect the apostles to tone things down? The same God who brought Jesus up from the grave has brought them out of prison. All they can do is tell the world. The balance of power may appear to lie with the people. It's probably truer to say that events are really being directed by the work of the Holy Spirit among them.

Listening:

Praying:

We pray Lord for obedience to the Spirit in all things

- that no earthly power would derail us from our call to witness to Christ
- that no attempt to shut us up would prevent us speaking of Jesus
- that no personal fear would hold back our testimony to the love and mercy of God

Father: in all my words for you, grant me the same Spirit of truth and boldness which brings Christ alive in every age – however uncertain I feel as I try to find them and speak them. Amen

Doing:

Tuesday, 19 April 2016