

Ways of the Warriors

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Rev. Howard Young

Text: Acts 4:23-24, 29-31

History has always had great people.

- Nations rise and fall on the shoulders of its warriors - people who refuse to accept things as they are and they have their own vision for the future and are willing to pay whatever price to see it fulfilled!
- There is still room in our culture for warriors. In fact, current culture demands warriors for Christ - those willing to bring the kingdom of God into the kingdoms of men.
- Rick Warren suggests we still need individuals willing to help and free people around us. He suggests five qualities are needed as warriors of Christ:
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____

Let's look at the ways of these earliest Christian warriors:

1. They prayerfully turned to God when finding themselves in a defensive position.

- They immediately sought the identity and strength of their own.
- See v24: They begin their prayer: "*Sovereign Lord*"(despotes)
- God's control over all things is the foundational to all meaningful prayer.
- The question: *Can you release yourself to this kind of trust?*
- *David in Adullam (refuge): Psalm 142*

2. They made their decision of courage: they prayed for courage and then made the decision to exercise courage!

- They prayed for boldness to return to their mission.
- Their commitment was not to the masses, not the themselves, not to numerical growth and cultural understanding; *their commitment was to the message!*