

12. What evidence of God's sovereign love and grace can you point to in your life? What efforts do you think you should take to share that love and grace with others?

13. What is the next step of obedience you need to take in order to take on your part in God's plan?

14. The early church's example of boldness in the face of persecution is one we need to imitate today. What would it look like for us to be people who courageously stand up for God?

# **Prayer Requests**

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April 17, 2016 Sermon Notes
The Jonah Syndrome: We Obey Eventually
Jonah 3

God's Redemptive Plan Reaches Out to A	People
1. God's Redemption Plan Reveals His P H People	with

2.	God's Redemption Plan Reveals His H	for
L_	People	

1Samuel 15:11 cf 15:29 Jeremiah 18:7-10

> Ezekiel 18:22,32 1Timothy 2:4

#### **GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK**

**April 17, 2016** 

## THINKING THINGS THROUGH

- 1. What is one area of life where you feel like you always have to be in control? (parenting, physical health, finances, etc.) Why do you feel that way?
- 2. When is a time when you feel most out of control?

### DIGGING DEEPER

#### **READ ACTS 4:23-28.**

- 3. What did the group of disciples do when they heard the report from Peter and John? What are some other ways they could have responded, instead of turning to God in prayer (vv. 23-24)?
- 4. As the assembled disciples raised their voices to God, they began their prayer by acknowledging God's sovereignty. What do we communicate to God when we affirm He is the Sovereign Lord (v. 24)?
- 5. In their prayer, the disciples quoted Psalm 2:1-2 (Acts 4:25b-26). What promise from this passage helped them understand God's plan for them?

6. When we pray, both on our own and together as a Growth Group, would you say we embrace God's plan and trust His sovereignty, or do we seem to be trying to persuade God to change His mind?

#### **READ ACTS 4:29-30.**

- 7. What did the disciples ask the Lord to do about the threats the Jewish leaders had made? What else might we have expected them to ask?
- 8. Why do you think they didn't ask for God to protect them, or to judge their enemies?
- 9. How does their prayer for boldness reveal their commitment to obey the task God set before them?
- 10. How would our prayers be different if our focus in prayer was on obeying God in the hard times instead of on asking for relief from the hard times?
- 11. How have you seen God confirm His word clearly and powerfully? Do you feel free to pray for Him to do so? Why or why not?