

How Should I Respond?



3 Techniques Control Freaks Use

1. Intimidation
2. Self-Pity
3. Guilt

While Peter and John were speaking to the people, they were confronted by the priests, the captain of the Temple guard, and some of the Sadducees. These leaders were very disturbed that Peter and John were teaching the people that through Jesus there is a resurrection of the dead. They arrested them and, since it was already evening, put them in jail until morning.

~ Acts 4:1-3

“What should we do with these men?” they asked each other. “We can’t deny that they have performed a miraculous sign, and everybody in Jerusalem knows about it. But to keep them from spreading their propaganda any further, we must warn them not to speak to anyone in Jesus’ name again.” So they called the apostles back in and commanded them never again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.

~ Acts 4:16-18

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~ Acts 4:16-18

Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him? We cannot stop telling about everything we have seen and heard.

~ Acts 4:19-20

3 Observations About Peter & John

- I. They never lost sight of who they were **RESPONSIBLE TO.**
- II. They remained true to their **CORE BELIEFS.**

We cannot stop telling about everything
we have seen and heard.

~ Acts 4:20

They were tortured, refusing to turn from God in order to be set free. They placed their hope in a better life after the resurrection. Some were jeered at, and their backs were cut open with whips. Others were chained in prisons. Some died by stoning, some were sawed in half, and others were killed with the sword. Some went about wearing skins of sheep and goats, destitute and oppressed and mistreated. They were too good for this world, wandering over deserts and mountains, hiding in caves and holes in the ground. All these people earned a good reputation because of their faith.

~ Hebrews 11:35-39

3 Observations About Peter & John

- I. They never lost sight of who they were **RESPONSIBLE TO**.
- II. They remained true to their **CORE BELIEFS**.
- III. They accepted the **RISK** that was involved in making their own choice.

God's way is perfect. All the LORD's promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to him for protection.

~ Psalm 18:30

The LORD hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles.

~ Psalm 34:17

He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him.

~ Proverbs 2:8

2 Exceptions

1. Children
2. People in Chain-of-Command Situations

Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account.

~ Hebrews 13:17

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