

Disturbing the Peace

1. *"The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. ² They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. ³ They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. ⁴ But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand."* - Acts 4:1-4
2. *"But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. ¹⁵ For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. ¹⁶ To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life."* - II Corinthians 2:14-16
3. There is an unseen aroma that comes off of you when you mingle in any way. It has nothing to do with your body. It has everything to do with your spiritual condition. And for those who don't believe, the aroma can be so overpowering that they begin to react in very irrational ways.
4. *"⁵ The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. ⁶ Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. ⁷ They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: 'By what power or what name did you do this?'"* - vv. 5-7
5. *"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."*
6. *"When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished."*
7. *"Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! ²⁰ As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."* - Acts 4:19-20

8. “*That which was from the beginning, which we have **heard**, which we have **seen** with our eyes, which we have **looked at** and our hands have **touched**—this we **proclaim** (they did not “suggest”) concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we **proclaim** to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.” - I John 1:1-2*
9. You know what you know; you’ve seen what you’ve seen. That’s what we call a witness.
10. “On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. ‘Sovereign Lord,’ they said, ‘you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:
“*Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
²⁶ The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers band together
against the Lord
and against his anointed one.*” - Acts 4:23-26
11. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. - Acts 4:29-31
12. Everyone of us has a testimony in us - and God is waiting and ready to use that testimony the moment we make ourselves available.
13. You have power; you have a true testimony; you have Jesus.