THE CHURCH UNLEASHED

Life Group Discussion Guide

WEEK 2	A RESILIENT CHURCH
KEY SCRIPTURES Acts 5:17–42, Matthew 11:28, Galatians 5:22–23	**MAIN IDEA** Resilient faith isn't manufactured by willpower, but developed through dependence on Jesus—especially when following Him is difficult or costly.

30-MINUTE GUIDE • Use the questions as a guide, not a script. Prioritize honest conversation and the next step God may be inviting each person to take.

1. START HERE — CONNECT

- What's one area in your life where doing the "right thing" didn't lead to the outcome you hoped for? How did you react, and what did you learn from that experience?

2. DIG IN — UNDERSTAND

- Read Acts 5:17–21 and Acts 5:27–32 together.
  What stands out to you about the apostles' response after being jailed and told not to speak about Jesus?
    - What reasons might they have had for giving up or staying silent?
- The sermon pointed out the difference between being filled with jealousy (like the Sadducees) and being filled with the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23). What does it look like when a person or a community is filled with the Holy Spirit rather than something else?
- In Acts 5:41–42, after being beaten, the apostles rejoice "because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name." Why do you think they could rejoice even when things got harder for them?

3. GO DEEPER — REFLECT

- The message challenged the idea that comfort and easy circumstances are proof of God's faithfulness. How have you seen this assumption play out in your own expectations or prayers?
    - How might that assumption need to change?
- The sermon emphasized that resilient faith is "developed through dependence on Jesus, not determination." When life gets overwhelming or disappointing, what do you usually depend on? What would it look like to depend on Jesus in those moments instead?
- When Jesus' teachings challenge your preferences, priorities, or lifestyle, how do you usually respond? What does it mean for you personally to "obey God rather than people" (Acts 5:29)?

4. RESPOND — APPLY

- In what areas of your life might God be inviting you to surrender more deeply, to trust Him even when it costs you comfort, reputation, or ease?
- How can you encourage or support someone else who is walking through difficult circumstances or facing pressure because of their faith?

MY NEXT STEP

What is one specific and practical next step you feel led to take in light of today's discussion?

This could be a way to depend more fully on Jesus, to step out in obedience, to encourage someone else, or to reshape your expectations about following Christ.

5. PRAY TOGETHER

- Thank Jesus for being the source of resilient faith and for His presence in every circumstance.
- Ask Him for courage and joy to obey, even when it is difficult or costly.
- Pray for a deeper dependence on Him rather than on your own strength, and for the Holy Spirit to shape your character as you follow Jesus.