



OPENING UP: Can you think of a time when you felt timidity about your Christian faith? What was that like? What do you think caused your fear? How do you feel and how do you respond when you are challenged or criticized about your faith in Jesus?


1 As the Apostles advance the gospel in the Book of Acts, they face opposition, difficulty and persecution. The same is true today. When the gospel advances, there will be opposition. What kind of things can help Christians be more ready to face persecution?

 Discuss this tribute paid to the Scottish reformer, John Knox: “He feared God so much that he never feared the face of any man.”

 Where are you feeling opposition for your gospel witness? How can we pray for you?

2 In Acts 4:1-2, the gospel message of Jesus’ death and resurrection ‘greatly annoyed’ the religious leaders of that day. Why do you think the true gospel poses a threat to those in positions of religious authority/power?

 What are some of the beliefs or practices that the gospel challenges? In what ways does the church confront the world with Jesus today?

 Think of your own way of living and belief system. In what ways does the gospel confront you?

