

THE BOOK OF

ACTS

THE STORY CONTINUES

Evangelism

Acts 4:1-31

Peter and John in Court

Last Time: Acts 3

- Peter heals a lame man in Jesus' name
- A crowd witnesses the man praising God
 - Peter evangelizes the crowd

Last Time: Acts 3

The Message:

16 By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong... 17 Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. 18 But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Messiah would suffer. 19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord...

Acts 4 (NIV)

Acts 4 (NIV)

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 (NIV)

7 They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: “By what power or what name did you do this?”

Acts 4 (NIV)

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them:
“Rulers and elders of the people! 9 If we are being called
to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man
who was lame and are being asked how he was healed,
10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is
by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you
crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this
man stands before you healed.

Acts 4 (NIV)

11 Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.” 12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4 (NIV)

7 “By what power or what name...?”

10 ...by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead...

11 Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.” 12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4 (NIV)

12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Jesus is the only way!!!

Acts 4 (NIV)

13 When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. 14 But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. 15 So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together.

Acts 4 (NIV)

13 When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. 14 But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. 15 So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together.

Acts 4 (NIV)

18 Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John replied, “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 (NIV)

18 Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John replied, "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 (NIV)

23 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...

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."

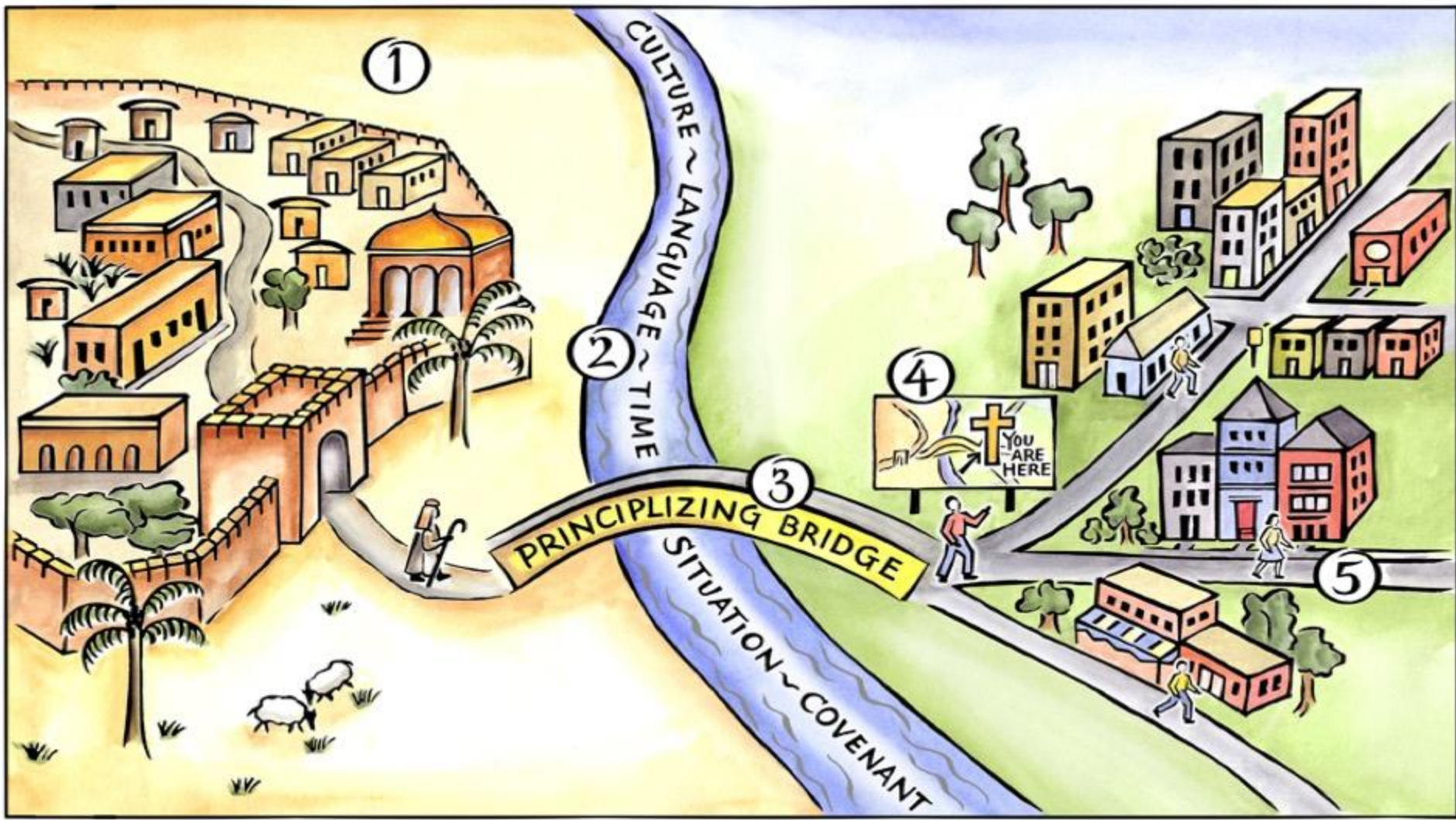
Acts 4 (NIV)

- Meeting in community
 - Praying for boldness
 - Keeping at the work

Acts 4 (NIV)

- Meeting in community
 - Praying for boldness
 - Keeping at the work

31 ...And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.



①

Hermeneutics

1) Their Town: Apostles fresh off Jesus' ministry, in an occupied theocracy

②

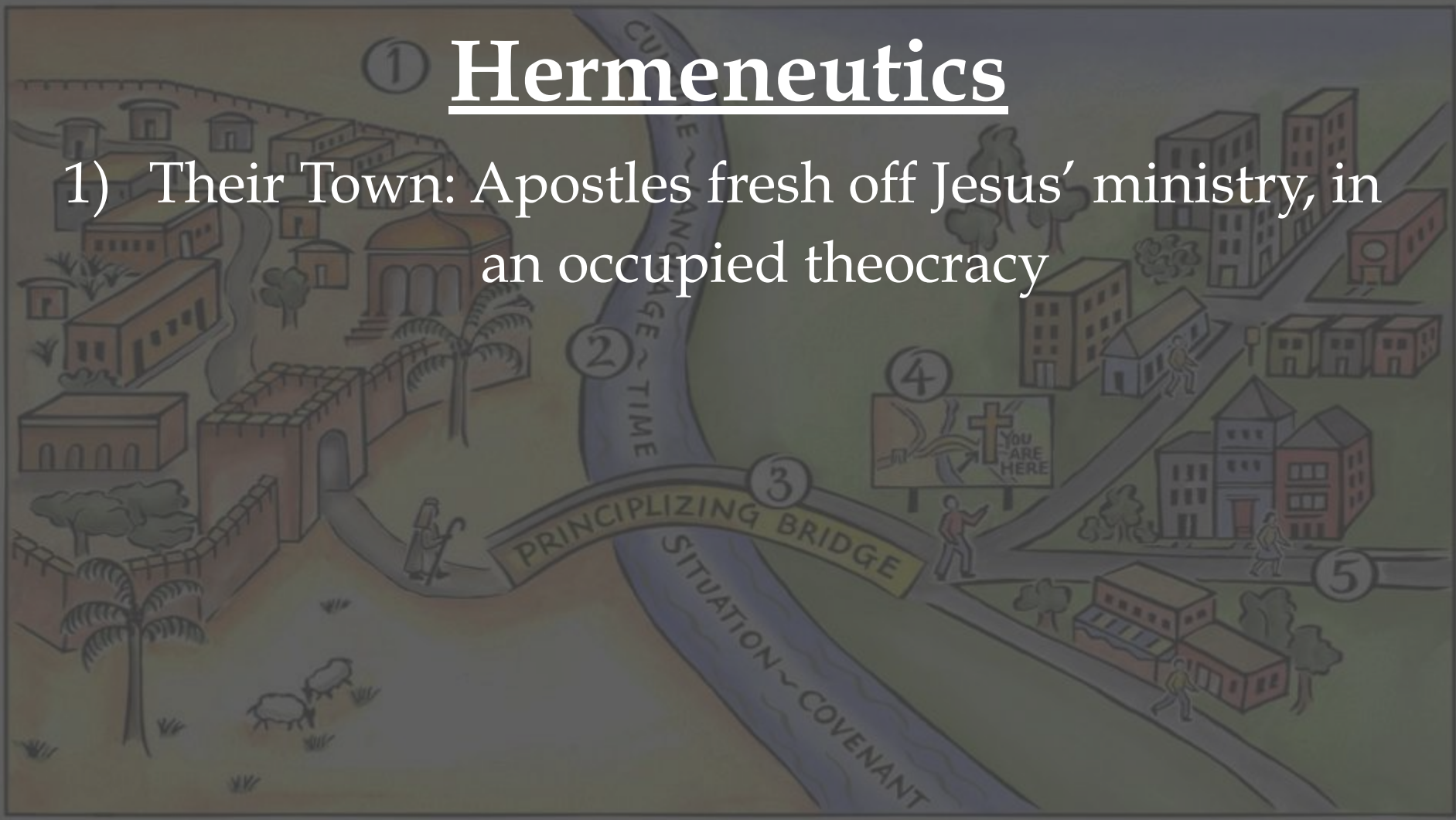
PRINCIPALIZING BRIDGE

③

④

YOU ARE HERE

⑤



①

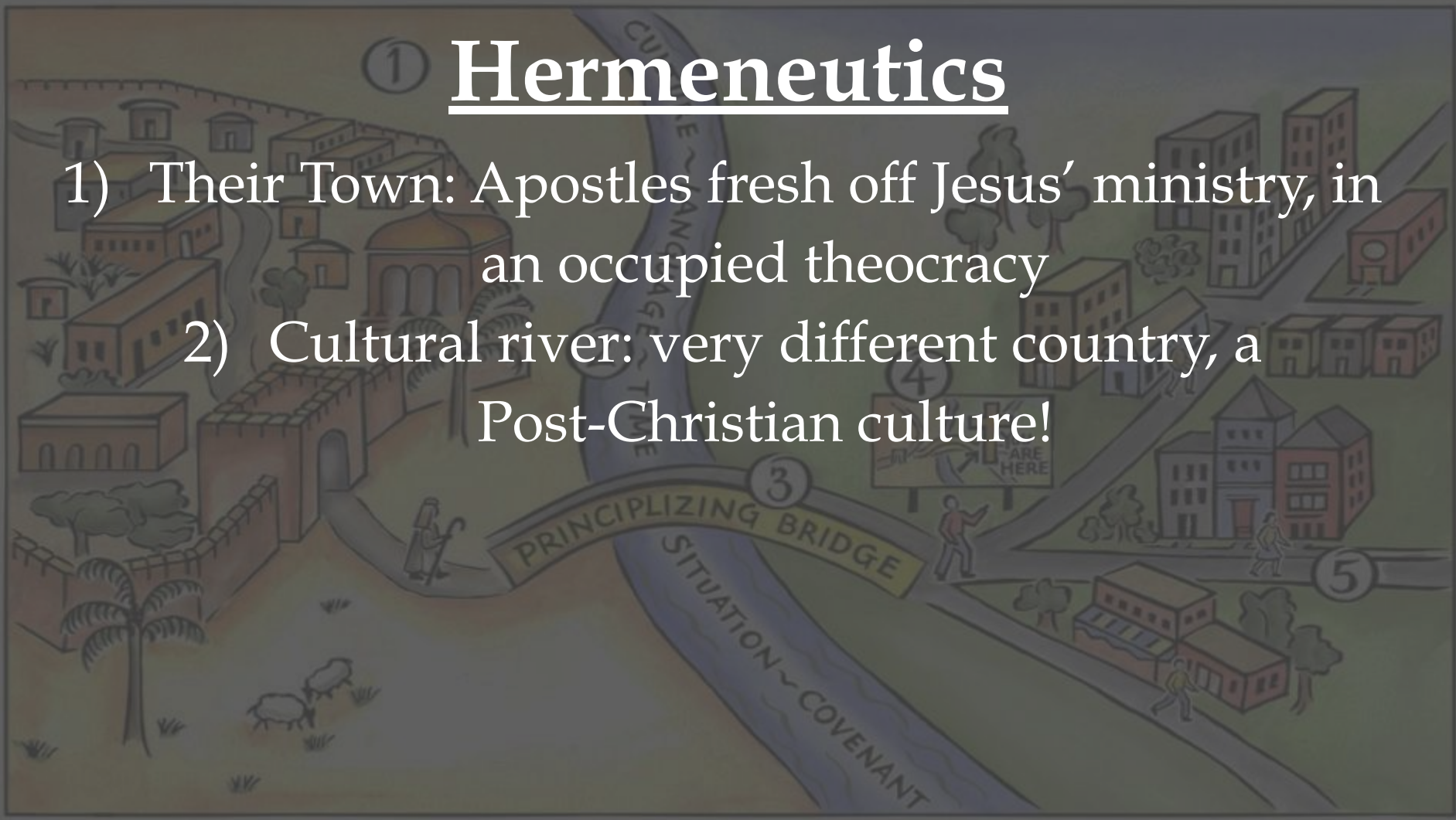
Hermeneutics

- 1) Their Town: Apostles fresh off Jesus' ministry, in an occupied theocracy
- 2) Cultural river: very different country, a Post-Christian culture!

③
PRINCIPALIZING BRIDGE
SITUATION ~ COVENANT

④
ARE HERE

⑤



The background is a stylized, hand-drawn illustration of a city. A blue river flows through the center, with a yellow bridge crossing it. The city is filled with various buildings, including domes, towers, and simple rectangular structures. There are trees and palm trees scattered throughout. A signpost with an arrow points to a location labeled 'HERE'. A banner or path is labeled 'Covenant'. The overall style is reminiscent of a children's book illustration or a map. The text is overlaid on this background.

Hermeneutics

- 1) Their Town: Apostles fresh off Jesus' ministry, in an occupied theocracy
- 2) Cultural river: very different country, a Post-Christian culture!
- 3) Principles: God will use us and strengthen us to tell His story and advance His kingdom. The Kingdom is coming!

1 Hermeneutics



4) Roadmap: one scene before us in the last act... A time of extraordinary wonders with ordinary people, but still just improvising like we do!



1 Hermeneutics

4) Roadmap: one scene before us in the last act... A time of extraordinary wonders with ordinary people, but still just improvising like we do!

5) Our Town: our methods may look different, but we need God and each other all the same. We need to tell this story!

Acts 4 (NIV)

27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. 28 They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. 29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.

God is at work before us,
God is at work with us,
God is at work without us,
and God is at work after us



<https://www.npr.org/2025/03/03/nx-s1-5316163/james-harrison-blood-donor>

Take one step of faith

Repent, and move against the current

Ask a friend if they have, or would, read the Bible

Help us build trust

Take a sticker

Do some learning

1 Peter 3:15-18 (NIV)

15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. 17 For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. 18 For Christ also suffered once for sins... to bring you to God.

Gospel Response

Remember why we are here, because Christ is risen

God wants you to join His ongoing story

Take a step of faith