Reading: Acts 4:8-12, 19-20; 5:29-32

1. What is the context of Peter’s sermon in Acts 4:8-12, 19-20? Who is involved and where are they?
2. Who or what is the Sanhedrin? (Compare Acts 4:5-6 to Mt 28:57,59) Specifically, why were the Apostles brought before them; why would the actions of the Apostles concern the Sanhedrin? (Acts 4:1-2)
3. How does Peter answer the question of authority in 4:8-12? How do Peter and John answer in 4:19-20? Why are these responses so powerful and effective? (Acts 4:13-16, 22; compare Joshua 24:15 and Acts 4:19)
4. What motivated the high priest to bring the Apostles before him in Acts 5? (Acts 5:12-16,28)
5. What can we learn from the examples of the Apostles? How should we act when we find ourselves questioned or even threatened for our faith?
6. What would you say is the theme of these verses?