Sermon-based Discussion Questions

"Catch and Release" from 11/8/2020 Acts 5:17-42

<u>SPOILER ALERT</u>: You may not want to read these until AFTER you have heard the sermon.

- 1. What was one TV show that you never wanted to miss? What was your favorite episode that you can remember?
- 2. Read Acts 5:27-32. What makes it difficult to stand up to opposition? What do you think gave the apostles the confidence to continue to speak about Jesus even though they were under "strict orders not to teach in this name"?
- 3. When do you most feel intimidated to talk about spiritual things with other people? Who are you most afraid to talk about your faith with? What do you think makes us feel so intimidated?
- 4. Why might admitting that we are *weak* actually *strengthen* our resolve as followers of Jesus? (Read John 15:5; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5). What might it look like to root our resolve in Jesus's resurrection?
- 5. Read Acts 5:40-42. How is it possible that the apostles could remain joyful after having suffered so much? Is it reasonable to think that joy and suffering can go together? How so?
- 6. How might these verses shape the way that we pray for one another as a Life Group? As a church family? For persecuted followers of Jesus in other countries?