

Definition: Willingness to take risks and act innovatively; confidence or courage. The quality of having a strong, vivid, or clear appearance.

Acts 4:13 when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and discovered that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized these men had been with Jesus.

Do you have an example of someone showing boldness?

What do you think when you see boldness in another?

History: Hugh Lattimer once preached before King Henry VIII. Henry was greatly displeased by the boldness in the sermon and ordered Lattimer to preach again on the following Sunday and apologize for the offence he had given. The next Sunday, after reading his text, he thus began his sermon:

“Hugh Lattimer, dost thou know before whom thou are this day to speak? To the high and mighty monarch, the king’s most excellent majesty, who can take away thy life, if thou offends. Therefore, take heed that thou speak not a word that may displease. Then consider well, Hugh, dost thou not know from whence thou come—upon whose message thou are sent? Even by the great and mighty God, Who is all-present and Who beholds all thy ways and Who is able to cast thy soul into hell! Therefore, take care that thou delivers thy message faithfully.”

He then preached the same sermon he had preached the preceding Sunday—and with considerably more energy.

Passages:

Proverbs 28:1 - The wicked flee when no one is pursuing, But the righteous are bold as a lion.

Ephesians 3:12 - in whom we have boldness and confident access to God because of Christ’s faithfulness.

Is boldness common in our culture? Why? Why not?

Are there times you feel it is hard to be bold?

How do we teach others boldness without them becoming arrogant?