

ACTS

Bible Study

2018-2019



Lesson: 28
Acts 23

Read this week's scripture and answer the questions below. As you read, consider how these verses fit into what you are seeing or experiencing today. Prepare to share with your small group anything that jumped out at you, confused you, encouraged you, challenged or convicted you.

Wednesday:

Take in 23:1. Hear Paul's words, "I have lived my life before God in all good conscience." A bold claim, perhaps impossible. How can Paul say this? Paul's righteousness is in Christ. Let this verse call you to reflection. Let it call you to repentance. Let it call you to praise Christ who has conquered sin and death and calls us to live into his revolutionary reality.

Thursday:

Read verses 2-5. Paul is certainly willing to suffer for the gospel; that doesn't mean he is just a passive victim. Here he confronts the injustice committed against him. We too are called to speak out against injustice. Are there injustices in your own sphere of influence that you could work to set right. Pray for eyes to see and courage to act.

Friday:

Spend time with verses 6-10. Here again we see Paul's shrewdness. He proclaims the resurrection, and simultaneously, sets the religious leaders against one another, getting himself off the hook...momentarily. All too often our beliefs become points of argument rather than points of light. Take stock. Pray for the wisdom to argue for the right things and let pass the others.

Saturday:

Rest in verse 11. Paul hears from the Lord. This isn't an experience most of us have had, and yet we can hear from Jesus as he speaks to Paul. He affirms Paul for his faithfulness up until now and charges him to keep on. Reflect on this verse. Thank God for his faithfulness until now and ask him to guide you to the work that lay ahead.

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Sunday:

Read and think about verses 12-22. We see the cost of Paul's discipleship. You might have trouble, but do you have 40 people fasting until you are dead? Still, we need not diminish our troubles. Bring them to the Lord today. Ask that he would work in them and through them, that you might learn the lesson within them.

Monday:

Read verses 23-35. The Lord makes a way forward for Paul. Throughout scripture, God is faithful, not in preventing trials, but in walking and working through it. Are you walking through trial? Bring it to the Lord in prayer today.

Tuesday:

Review chapter 23. What stands out in this unfolding story? What questions, insights, challenges will you bring with you to your small group tonight? Pray for our gathering. Pray that the Lord would be at work as his men draw together.

Notes/Prayer Request
