

The Heart of the Matter

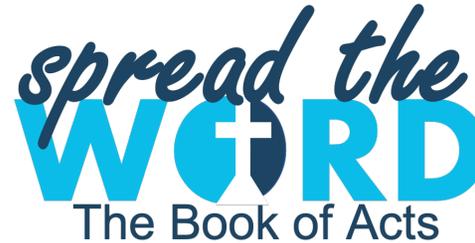
12. Paul told his own story instead of preaching a sermon to this crowd. When do you find your story most effective and helpful to others?

13. If you have not already done so, share the story of your relationship with Christ with your group.

14. How has your faith in Jesus redirected your life in surprising ways? In what ways do you struggle with the new direction to which God has called you?

15. What is one of the hardest things you have had to experience because of your faith?

Praises and Prayer Requests:



Life Group Study Guide

Sharing Your Story Acts 21:37 - 22:29 For the Week of August 4, 2019

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. When have you wished you could understand another language better? What languages did you study in school, if any?
3. What is something you have seen that most people you know haven't?

Digging Deeper

4. From 21:30-36, why might the commander mistake Paul for the Egyptian revolutionary in verse 38?

5. Under the circumstances, why did Paul think it so important to address this hostile crowd? How would Jewish-Christian relationships erode even further if the charges of 21:28 were left unanswered?

6. Many foreign-born Jews did not speak Aramaic well. How does Paul's use of this language (along with the content of his speech) persuade these Jews to listen?

7. Paul's speech in Acts 22:1-10 recounts the events of his life from Acts 9:1-18. What points of identification does Paul make with his hostile audience? What is he hoping to accomplish with this line of reasoning?

8. In what ways do you identify with Paul's testimony? In what ways is Paul's testimony really exceptional?

9. Up to this point the crowd seems willing to hear about Paul's experience with Jesus. Why does Paul's reference to the Gentiles in verse 21 upset the crowd in verse 22? What is the real sticking point for the Jews regarding Paul's message?

10. How would you describe the centurion's reaction to Paul's Roman citizenship in verses 25-29?

11. How is Paul's status as a Roman citizen truly an asset in his ministry to Gentiles? (V25-29; 16:37-38)