

The Heart of the Matter

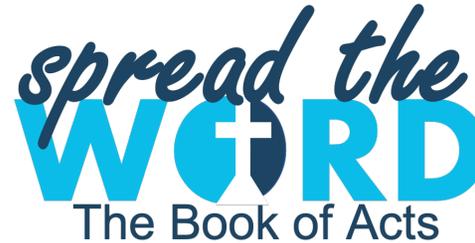
12. Could someone make a case against you for being a Christian? What evidence about your life this past week would they bring against you to build their case?

13. When you have questions about your faith, to whom do you turn? Why? How else do you seek to find answers about what is true?

14. What difference does it make to you that Jesus truly rose from the dead? How should the resurrection of Christ make a difference in how you live your life for Christ day to day?

15. In verse 14, Paul adds a comment to his conversion account that is not mentioned in chapters 9 or 22 about “kicking against the goads.” When has God pointed out to you that your struggle has been against him all along? How has He consistently and patiently redirected you since then?

Praises and Prayer Requests:



Life Group Study Guide

On Trial for Christ Acts 24:1-26:32 For the Week of August 18, 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. How familiar are you with a court of law? Have you ever served as a juror, plaintiff, or witness before? What was your experience?
3. In the past how have you responded when you were accused of something you didn’t do?

Digging Deeper

4. Felix had a reputation of violently suppressing any rebellion against Rome. The Jews from Jerusalem invited Tertullus the lawyer to represent their case against Paul. How might Tertullus help their cause?

5. What difference can you see in the style of argument Tertullus uses to present his case to Felix compared to Paul's style so far? (24:2-4) What three charges does the lawyer bring against Paul in verses 5-6?

6. How would all the charges in verse 5-6 seem true to Ananais and Tertullus? What does the reference to Christians as the "Nazarene sect" show about their view of Christianity?

7. How does Paul defend himself in verses 11-19? Based on the information that Felix received from the trial what conclusion would you have made about Paul and his accusers? Why was Felix afraid in verse 25?

8. Two years have passed since the trial before Felix (24:27). Why hasn't the opposition to Paul by the Jewish leaders dissipated during this time? What is at stake for the Jews?

9. What is the outcome of Paul's initial hearing before Festus from verses 8-12? Was the outcome good or bad? Why?

10. What is the problem that Festus is facing with Paul's ongoing imprisonment along with Paul's appeal to Caesar in 25:16-21? How could Agrippa be of any help to Festus in determining Paul's fate?

11. According to Paul, what issue is the real source of his conflict with the Jewish leaders? (23:6; 24:21; 26:6-8) From verses 26:20 and 20:21 how could we encourage someone to place their faith in Christ?