

# 2024 - Family Devo

## Nov 24 - a

### READ: Acts 25:23-27

**Main Idea:** When Paul is brought before king Agrippa and the king's sister there is great pomp. It is amazing how people who have power and authority are treated with so much flattery. Often times people in power not only welcome this flattery, but they demand it. How ironic that this grandeur is given to these human leaders while the one on trial will tell about the one divine leader who is truly worthy of such worship, Jesus.

### DISCUSS

**Children:** The next day King Agrippa and his sister came to hear Paul. Festus brought Paul in and explained to King Agrippa once again that he could not find any crime that Paul had committed. Since Paul asked to go to Rome he was going to send him to Rome. He needed advice on what to write to the Emperor so he would know why Paul had been sent to him. Paul has spent quite a bit of time waiting to go to Rome where God said he would go. He responds to this time of being unfairly accused and imprisonment as a time where he waits patiently on the Lord. He does not fret over his unfair treatment. If you are a Christian the Holy Spirit can enable you to be patient and trust the Lord when you are facing difficulties. Whether it is being treated unfairly or waiting for God to answer your prayer about some other difficulty, you can be still and trust God during that time.

**Teen:** These leaders are thinking of an earthly status in a temporary life while Jesus was concerned with the spiritual eternal life. How do you guard against pride and thinking you deserve more to instead, be more like Jesus, a humble servant? What are some differences between these men and Jesus? What do you have in common with each?

**Adult:** In the meeting with Agrippa, Festus confesses that Paul has done nothing deserving death. Then he appeals to the crowd for what to say to Caesar. Why do you think he did this? What did he think to accomplish by having them help with the Paul situation? Do you think this was to flatter or to avoid making the decisions himself? Have you worked for a manager who didn't make decisions, or at least many decisions? How did that influence how you worked? Did you feel like you needed to take extra precautions whenever you had to do something new, or make your own decisions?

### PRAY

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### MEMORIZE

**Psalm 147:5 (ESV)**  
**Great is our Lord, and  
abundant in power;  
his understanding is  
beyond measure.**



# 2024 - Family Devo

## Nov 24 - b

### READ: Acts 26:1-11

**Main Idea:** Paul makes his defense before King Agrippa, but differently than before Felix or Festus. He knows King Agrippa is very familiar with the Jewish customs. So he gives his defense in a more aggressive way trying to convert the king to Christ in the process. Even though surely he knows the odds of converting this king is low, he still tries.

### DISCUSS

**Children:** Acts 26 serves as a powerful reminder that God can and will use every situation for His purposes. The chains that bound Paul physically were unable to restrain the power of the Gospel. His bold testimony to the highest authority of the land demonstrates that the transformative power of Christ can reach anyone, no matter their status. Given permission by King Agrippa, Paul shares his personal testimony, from his background as a Pharisee to his dramatic encounter with the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus. He speaks of his calling to preach to the Gentiles, his obedience to that divine calling, and his message of repentance, conversion, and faith in Christ. Paul boldly asserts that his preaching is consistent with the promises God made to their Jewish ancestors.

**Teen:** Can you convert someone to Christ if you don't even try? Is there at least a chance if you do try? Are you being obedient to God if you share Him with others? Sometimes we plant seeds, but never see the increase. Could the increase have happened if the seeds were not planted?

**Adult:** Paul defends himself differently this time. He starts by relating his history and prior bad acts. If you were a judge today, would you expect an accused to raise all the illegal actions they had done? Or would you expect his attorneys to do everything they could to keep the bad acts out of court? What is the significance of Paul's past in talking with a ruler who knows the Jewish customs? Does it set his credibility because he has had a change of heart? Should it make the hearers listen closely to what changed his mind? Why did Paul take this approach?

### PRAY

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