

2024 - Family Devo

Sep 22 - a



READ: Acts 21:1-16

Main Idea: Paul continues to travel. When he gets to Caesarea, he is not far from Jerusalem. A prophet named Agabus removes all doubt about what will happen to Paul if he continues to Jerusalem by prophesying he will be bound and handed over to the Gentiles. This doesn't slow Paul down in the least. He is ready to die for his faith, if necessary.

DISCUSS

Children: I'm not sure that if I knew the next time I went somewhere I would die there, I would go. Would you? If you knew that the next time you drove somewhere on vacation you would have your hands handcuffed and then killed. . . wouldn't you prolong that as long as possible? Paul knew and he went there anyway. His friends tried to talk him out of it, but he knew what God wanted him to do.

Teen: What was Paul's reaction to the prophet? What was the people's reaction? Is saying and meaning the "will of the Lord be done" difficult for you? Why or why not? What are things that will help you when you know pain and trials are coming?

Adult: All along this journey Paul was advised not to go to Jerusalem. What was his attitude towards going? Why do you think he was so strong about going? Do you think being "bound in the Spirit" to go to Jerusalem (Acts 20:22) helped? Spoiler alert: in Acts 23 the Lord tells him as he's testified in Jerusalem, he'll do the same in Rome. Does having visions from God help him in his focus? Should we have the same with the messages we have in the Bible?

PRAY

MEMORIZE

Matthew 5:16 (ESV)
In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.



2024 - Family Devo

Sep 22 - b



READ: Acts 21:17-26

Main Idea: Paul arrives in Jerusalem and the elders there greet him warmly. They are excited to hear about all the good things happening among new converts in Asia. But there is a problem. Paul's opponents are spreading rumors that Paul is teaching Jewish Christians to turn away from all their Jewish customs entirely. The idea is proposed for Paul to participate in a purifying ritual with some Jewish men there, and by doing so, he could show proof that the rumors were false.

DISCUSS

Children: Have you ever had a rumor spread about you? Or have you been accused of something that you didn't do? Sometimes when people are hearing bad things about you, it can be cleared up by you telling your side of the story. But often times, the best way to deal with bad rumors is by actions. If we keep doing good and right things, the truth will eventually come out.

Teen: Paul goes from being feared by those elders to being welcomed warmly by them. He goes from vehemently enforcing the law to being accused of turning away from the Jewish customs. Paul's life works quite differently after accepting that Jesus is the Lord and savior. Should our lives look different after we become followers of Jesus? In what ways should we look different?

Adult: Paul was received gladly and when the results of his ministry were told, the hearers glorified God. Do you think this may be part of why he needed to go to Jerusalem? When you hear about the Lord's work in other parts of the world, are you encouraged? Are you strengthened in your own work? Do you think their advice, to follow a Jewish custom, good advice?

PRAY

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