

2024 - Family Devo

Sep 29 - a



READ: Acts 21:27-39

Main Idea: Paul has almost completed his ritual purification at the Temple and he is spotted and captured by trouble-making Jews who had followed him from Asia. They jump to conclusions and falsely accuse him of teaching against Moses as well as breaking the rules of the Temple. They stir up the crowd and start beating Paul so much that the Roman soldiers nearby come to take control. As Paul is being taken away from the crowd to the barracks he gets permission to speak to the crowd.

DISCUSS

Children: How do you think Paul felt at this moment? How do you think he was able to stay calm when chaos was all around him? (The Holy Spirit enabled him to have courage) Paul trusted fully that God would take care of him and he had already been warned that bad things were going to happen. He could face anything as he obeyed God because the Holy Spirit would help him. Will God help you when you are in scary situations?

Teen: Do we in the church ever make assumptions and rile others up with those assumptions? Does it hurt the church when this happens? What are some better alternate ways we can handle situations?

Adult: Another crowd and uproar. Things told that aren't true. Why is it that we are so quick to accept errors or outright lies at times? Why do we not wait to hear proof before we make up our minds? Especially in our times of social media and the quick spreading of "news?" Would you have been offended if you were a Jew and thought a Gentile had been brought into the temple? Would you have wanted to take action? Would you have been one dragging Paul out of the temple to be killed?

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 29 - b

READ: Acts 21:40 – 22:5

Main Idea: Paul begins to make his defense to the Jewish crowd who was trying to kill him before being “rescued” by the Roman Tribune. The crowd became quiet when they heard him speaking in their native Hebrew language. He begins telling his conversion story by stating that he grew up a devout Jew, zealous for God and doing the very thing they were currently doing, persecuting Christians. What a great testimony for him to be able to express that he was once, just like them.

DISCUSS

Children: The Holy Spirit enabled Paul to have a clear mind in the middle of such chaos. The Holy Spirit gave Paul wisdom to know he had an opportunity to share the Good News with this angry crowd. Many times we hear church leaders and teachers say the phrases ‘we need to testify to others about Jesus,’ ‘we should share our story with others,’ and ‘you should be a witness for Jesus.’ The word testimony means to witness and the word testify means to bear witness. For a believer what do you think it means to share your testimony or to be a witness for Jesus?

Teen: When you tell others about Jesus and share your own stories, do you point out that you were just like them at one time? What benefit is there in expressing that fact?

Adult: How does telling his curriculum vitae help Paul in his defense this day? Paul even calls upon the religious leaders to bear witness to his prior actions. Why do you think he told them he also had been against the Way? Was he trying to get them to relate to him? Was he setting the stage? Was he drawing them to him to build relationship? Do you think this was a good start to his sermon, given that he is talking to Jews?

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.

