

Unit 35, Session 3

**Paul Was Sent to Rome (Acts 24–26)**



Dear families,

The story of Paul's time in Caesarea seemed to be long, drawn out, and hopeless. Even still, the apostle was not without hope, which he proclaimed the good news of Jesus before the governor and king—just as Jesus prophesied of His followers in Matthew 10:18.

How does Paul establish the credibility of his faith in Jesus here at his tribunal? What does he declare to be his hope, even now as a prisoner under the threat of death by his own people?

Paul spent much of this time laying out his testimony, beginning with his blamelessness through the lens of the Jewish law, as well as his continued worship of the same God as his Jewish ancestors. As he stood before King Agrippa and Queen Bernice, the military commanders, and prominent men of the city, he laid out the hope of God's people since the beginning and how Jesus' life, death, and resurrection served as the fulfillment of their long-awaited grand hope.

It seemed apparent to the king that, after years of incarceration, this prisoner had finally received an opportunity to defend his freedom before these great men of power. However, rather than deflecting from his intended message for the sake of his freedom, Paul chose to extend a gospel presentation. The king asked if he were really going to present the case of Christ so easily, and Paul's response was that he desired all those individuals present before him to receive the same gift of salvation that applies to all—no matter their worldly status.

Paul never wavered in his boasting of Christ and His resurrection, nor did he allow the terrible circumstances of his imprisonment to color his belief in the worthiness of his Lord. Consider the faith this man had in believing Jesus' promises amidst his hardship. How can you shine that same light as you teach of Paul's courage and perseverance in his eternal hope in Jesus? Teach the boys and girls in your group about the boldness of Paul in response to the faithfulness of Jesus.

**\*\* Next week:** Paul Went to Rome (Acts 27–28)



## Family Worship Experience

— READ THE SCRIPTURE —

### PAUL WAS SENT TO ROME



Watch the Bible story video or read all or parts of Acts 24:1–26:32 from the Bible.



## Family Worship Experience

TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE

Mommy ... Mommy ... MOMMY! Have you ever heard a small child who wants to tell their parent something? Even if the parent is busy, the child will continue to shout their name until someone gives them the attention they want. The child thinks whatever they have to say is the most important thing, and they will do anything to get you to listen!

Paul wasn't shouting for his mommy, but he was continuously shouting the story of how Jesus had saved his life. Paul knew that this was the most important news anyone could hear, so he wanted everyone to listen! God gave Paul the opportunity to share the good news about Jesus with governors and kings. Even when the people tried to stop him, Paul was faithful to tell people about Jesus.

Every follower of Jesus has a great story to tell! Like Paul sharing how Jesus had saved him on the road to Damascus, every believer can use their testimony to tell others about Jesus. Jesus has the power to save, and that's a story worth sharing!

**God had chosen Paul to take the gospel to Gentiles, kings, and the Israelites. Paul met with people again and again to tell the good news about Jesus. He wanted everyone to believe that Jesus is Lord. Because Jesus has the power to save people from sin, Paul was willing to do whatever it took to share the gospel.**

*Pray: Jesus, You are Lord. You alone have the power to save! Help me to share the gospel over and over again so that everyone who hears will believe in You! Amen.*



## Family Worship Experience

- LEARN SCRIPTURE -

*The key passage below is focused on at church. Consider talking about what this passage means and memorizing it as well.*



**LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you. I will praise your name, for you have accomplished wonders, plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness.**

Isaiah 25:1



## Family Worship Experience

- SING SCRIPTURE -

Finish your family worship experience by playing the Key Passage song to worship and as a further way to memorize Scripture.



## **Family Prayer Time**

### **Mornings**

Thank God for the people who help you know more about Jesus. Who are the people who share the good news about Jesus with you? Why is this message worth sharing?

### **Evenings**

Ask God to provide opportunities for you to tell someone about Jesus this week. Who needs to hear about Jesus? How can you start a conversation that helps them to know Jesus better?



## **Family Activities**

### **For Fun**

Encourage each family member to write a short story about what life would be like if you moved to the moon. If your family has younger kids, work with them to write their ideas into your story or draw pictures. Ask each family member to read their story for the rest of the family. After, discuss how Paul used his story of life-change to help others hear about Jesus. How can your testimony be a tool in helping others hear about Jesus?

### **To Serve**

Take time to pray for local and national government leaders. Mail an encouraging card to their office that lets them know your family has prayed for them and the work they're doing.

# What's Different?

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Find and circle the eight differences in the picture below.





NAME:



## Paul Was Sent to Rome

### BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Paul met with Felix, Festus, King Agrippa, and Queen Bernice to try to explain why the Jews hated him. He told them about Jesus.
- Festus thought Paul was out of his mind because he spoke about the resurrection.
- The rulers agreed to send Paul to Rome to meet with Caesar.

### CHRIST CONNECTION:

God chose Paul to take the gospel to Gentiles, kings, and the Israelites. Paul met with people again and again to tell the good news about Jesus. He wanted everyone to believe that Jesus is Lord. Because Jesus has the power to save people from sin, Paul was willing to do whatever it took to share the gospel.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Isaiah 25:1

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why should we praise Jesus? We should praise Jesus for what He has done to provide our salvation and because He will one day make all things right.