

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of October 20, 2014

This Week's Focus: Paul is arrested in Jerusalem.

This Week's Text: Acts 21:27-22:29

"Radical obedience to Christ is not easy... It's not comfort, not health, not wealth, and not prosperity in this world. Radical obedience to Christ risks losing all these things. But in the end, such risk finds its reward in Christ. And he is more than enough for us." **David Platt**

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:1-2

Related Texts: Romans 12:20, 13:1-5; 1 Corinthians 9:19-23; Mark 14:31-36; Luke 22:4; Hebrews 12:2

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What in the text/sermon was most illuminating or helpful? Why?
- In verses 27-32 we read about the incident before Paul's arrest.
 - How does that fit in with the previous verses?
 - What were the accusations?
 - Describe what Paul might have been feeling and thinking.
 - Discuss a time when you were attacked falsely because of your faith.
 - What caution does this hold for us about jumping to conclusions too quickly?
- Paul does not become bitter against his enemies but seeks to share Christ with them.
 - What does that say about Paul? What does that say about God and the Gospel?

- Have you had experiences in which someone became very offended by what you said about your faith?
- What is the significance of Paul's addressing the crowd as "brothers and fathers"?
- Beginning in verse 3, Paul begins his defense by sharing his testimony.
 - How is this instructive for us?
 - What aspect of his testimony speaks to you the most? The least?
 - How important is sharing our testimony with others?
- Why does Paul mention his citizenship to avoid the flogging here, but did not do so in Philippi?
- Read verses 25-29 along with Romans 13:1-4 and discuss the God-ordained government's role in this narrative and in our day.
- Paul was very courageous in the face of fear. How was he able to stand firm? How do we stand firm in the gospel even while we are falsely accused and attacked?
- Read Mark 14:31-36, Luke 22:4, and Hebrews 12:2.
 - What is the "cup" Jesus was going to endure?
 - How did Jesus respond? Why?
- What are some of the lessons we can learn from this narrative?

Gospel Celebration:

- Jesus took the wrath we deserve!
- Jesus rose from the dead and is alive forevermore!

Next Week's Text: Acts 22:30-23:35