

## LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

## *Acts Series*

These questions are for the **March 14, 2021** sermon, "The Pivotal Moment." Please read the sermon passage (Acts 21:27-22:21) together out loud.

### Sermon Outline

WHEN IT IS TIME TO TELL YOUR STORY OF GOD'S GRACE, NOTE . . .

1. The false assumptions we need to recognize. (21:27-36)
  - a. They claimed Paul was teaching all men everywhere against their traditions.
  - b. They supposed and stated that he was even desecrating the temple.
  - c. In an effort to reject the gospel, many will malign and gossip about you.
    - i. Think clearly about how to effectively present Jesus Christ.
    - ii. Be ready for the crowds to reject your message and you.
2. The strategic opportunities we need to embrace. (21:37-22:1)
  - a. On the one hand, Paul was beaten, kicked out of the temple and arrested.
  - b. On the other hand, Paul stood in a place of great opportunity.
    - i. Accusers must eventually listen to the defense of those they accuse.
    - ii. The Roman commander and soldiers will also hear.
  - c. Paul misses no opportunity to privately and publicly preach Jesus, the Christ.
3. The essential points we need to highlight. (22:2-21)
  - a. Before Jesus: he held zealously to the law, which accomplished nothing. (3-5)
  - b. He met Jesus: he now sees the Righteous One, Jesus Christ. (6-16)
  - c. Because of Jesus: he now preaches Christ alone, especially to the gentiles. (17-21)

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Some of what Paul's accusers said was true. Do people accuse you of believing outlandish and scandalous things? Which of their accusations is true? Which are false? How have these accusations changed, strained and ended friendships? In what way have you counted the cost of following Jesus?
2. Based on #2, above: God may bring anger and accusation to you just to give you opportunity to bear witness to Jesus Christ. Note that Paul kept his cool. After enduring a beating and being arrested, he remained ready to proclaim Jesus. Have you ever proclaimed Christ in an unusual situation? What can you do to be ready for your next unexpected opportunity?
3. Based on #3, above: Tell us about your "before Christ" life, especially emphasizing what happened to prepare you to receive and fully rely on Jesus Christ alone. What about your story is compelling and engaging to unbelievers?
4. Based on #3, above: Tell us about how you have come to treasure Jesus more than anyone or anything. How does he delight you? Fulfill you? Comfort you? Protect you? In what way are you getting better at telling people about how much he means to you?