

WE ARE ALL WITNESSES

THE BOOK OF ACTS

Here We Go Again

Ps. Jeff Thompson, Dave Learned, John Nichols | Acts 25:1–27

ICE BREAKER:

What's a goofy habit or pattern you have in your life (example: sitting in the same chair every weekend)?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT IN CONTEXT:

Throughout this passage, we see a lot of the same events taking place. Paul is still in prison, facing opposition from Jewish leaders, awaiting yet another trial, and still waiting for the Lord to bring him to Rome. What does Paul's appeal to Caesar accomplish? Why is that pivotal in Paul's journey to Rome?

CONNECTING TO JESUS AND HIS GOSPEL:

The Gospel advances even through opposition and delay...Paul's repeated hearings give him platforms to testify about Jesus to rulers and authorities.

Where might God be giving you a platform for Gospel witness...even if it feels like a season of delay or opposition? What would it look like for you to embrace suffering or waiting as part of your witness to others about the hope you have in Christ?

LIVING OUT THE TRUTH:

Why is it hard to view the waiting as open doors for godly faithfulness and gospel proclamation?

What is something you have been waiting for? Have you grown weary of this area of life staying the same? Pray about those frustrations, asking God to grow your trust in his faithfulness.

How has God shown you in your life that He is faithful, maybe even in answering prayers that you thought would be answered differently? Encourage one another by recounting God's history of faithfulness.

PARENTING MOMENT:

Expanding on Paul's waiting in, ask your child(ren) what it means to wait on the Lord. Then read Psalm 27 together. Remind them that life might not always go the way we expect, but when we wait on God, He will lead us in His perfect way. His way is always better than what we could plan for ourselves. Encourage them with Psalm 27:13-14, which reminds us that waiting on the Lord takes strength and courage, but it is worth it because we will see His goodness in the land of the living!

FURTHER STUDY:

At the back of most Bibles, find a map of Paul's missionary journeys, comparing to his journey to Rome.