



## Bible study for the week starting April 30, 2023

### SHARE

Festus, the new governor, who replaced Felix has listened to Paul (25:7-12), and is now trying to figure out what to do with him, so he is gathering insight and the wisdom of King Agrippa. Paul's story, reputation, and honestly, his opposition are giving him audiences he wouldn't otherwise have. But for much of these opportunities, Paul has to wait. *How are you at waiting? Are you a patient or impatient person? How can you grow in your patience?*

### READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read ACTS 25:13-22 Paul's story now has the ear of King Agrippa (II).
  - a. His father was Herod Agrippa I (who died in Acts 12:23)
  - b. His great grandfather was Herod the Great (Matt 2:1)
  - c. His great uncle was Herod Antipas- who had John the Baptist beheaded (Matt 14) and tried Jesus (Luke 23).
  - d. History of power...Paul is aware of most of this which makes both his confidence and his boldness extra awesome (read ahead 26:27-29).
  - e. *Would you be that bold given the circumstance?*
2. Read ACTS 25:23-27 Festus is trying to govern well and figure out what he is going to say about Paul before he sends him to Rome. The charges against Paul seem suspect at best. Paul's reputation with Jews was not great, but seems to be pretty fair amongst the Romans. Read 1 Peter 2:12, 1 Timothy 3:7, Proverbs 22:1; Matthew 5:16 and have a discussion about reputation. *How important is reputation? How is your reputation? Have you ever had a negative reputation? What did you do?*
3. Paul is in between opportunities to preach. So he is in waiting. Read Psalm 130:5 *Why is this hard? What are you waiting on God to do? Where are you hoping for His fingerprints to transform?*

### PRAY

Pray for peace and strength in the waiting. Pray for opportunities and a reputation that makes much of Jesus revealing a patience and grace that is from Him.



In-Between: Acts 25:13-27  
April 30, 2023: Pastor Ben Schrank

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After His suffering, [JESUS] showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that He was ALIVE (Acts 1:3).

“I waited PAITENTLY for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my cry” (Psalm 40:1).

Μακροθυμέω : “patient” -LONG-SUFFERING

“The Lord is my SHEPHERD, I shall not want” Psalm 23:1

“Hurry is the great enemy of the spiritual life in our day. You must ruthlessly eliminate HURRY from your life... There is nothing else” (Dallas Willard).

How to live unhurried in the in-between:

- 1) Be here NOW.
- 2) Let your SOUL sabbath.
- 3) Keep an ETERNAL focus.

For I am CONVINCED that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the PRESENT nor the FUTURE, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Romans 8:38-39

*For Next Sunday read Acts 26:1-32*