

FIRST BAPTISTCHURCH ASHLAND

Discipleship Guide Acts 25

This guide was created to help you engage with the book of Acts and create deeper engagement with our worship services. Each week this guide will encourage you to reflect on two primary questions using the framework of Up (with God), In (with church) and Out (with neighbors). As we use this guide to reflect on the scriptures and your relationship with God, each other and your neighbors, consider pausing for a moment in quiet before jumping into the questions.

Weekly Questions:

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
 - How are you living up with God?
 - How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
 - How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

Acts 25 Questions:

It is tempting to start with politics and work our way to faith. However, Michael Wear points out: "Christians, the crisis is not that you are politically homeless. The crisis is that we ever thought we could make a home in politics at all."

- Paul and Jesus both strongly resist the pressures of political and religious leaders to prioritize their views over the Kingdom of God. Do you think it is difficult for churches to resist this pressure today? Why or why not?
- If you were to count the hours spent consuming media and listening, reading and connecting with the news, how does it compare to time with God in scriptures, praying and living on mission?

Christians are to be resurrection people and churches are a living apologetic.

- Resurrection people seek to keep their eyes on hope and believe that God is at work and still calling new people into relationship. What is one relationship you can be praying for God to work in that you feel stuck in this week?
- A church that intentionally focuses on how they live, repent, confess, hope, create community, practice justice, do mercy, walk humbly, love deeply and live gently is a church that is living proof in a doubting world. How might you help our church "live it" this week?

For our kids (and adults too!): How might you view a challenging situation or relationship as "not yet" healthy instead of being a lost cause?

After reflection, what are you going to do about what you learned this week?