

Community Group Discussion Guide

Step 01: Recap what our current series is all about.

Note: Remind the group what series we're currently on (since not everyone will have been at church recently) and read through the series description provided below to refresh everyone on what it's all about.

Series Title: The Acts of Jesus

Main Idea: Even after his death and resurrection, the story of Jesus continues on through his followers, his church, and his Holy Spirit. Even though Jesus is no longer center stage as Acts begins, he is undoubtedly still the main character. And even now 2,000 years later his story is still unfolding through his followers, his church, and his Holy Spirit—which means we get to be apart of it!

Step 02: Recap of this week's message.

Note: Read through the message outline with everyone briefly. You can stop and make comments as you see fit or read straight through it. Make sure you take time to read through the main text.

Message Title: Responding to God's Call

Main Text: Acts 26:22-29

Message Outline:

In this moment in Acts, Paul finds himself needing to give a defense to what he's been teaching and testifying. He not only proclaims the gospel but shares his testimony.

Observation 1: It's Our Job to Proclaim

- Paul was prepared not just to give an account of his faith but also share his own testimony.

Community Group Discussion Guide

- Our testimony as believers is one of our greatest tools in sharing and witnessing to the faith we have in Jesus.
- “Not everyone is ready for a proclamation of the gospel but everyone is ready for a demonstration of the gospel.” — Jason Patterson

Observation 2: Prepare to be Misunderstood

- When Paul presents the gospel and his testimony to Agrippa, he rebukes him by saying, “Paul you are out of your mind!”
- Sometimes when the gospel is shared, opposition will be present. (1 Cor. 1:18, “..the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing...).
- Don’t be discouraged! Just because you are misunderstood does not mean you misheard God.

Observation 3: Keep Proclaiming No Matter What

- Even after hearing from Paul, Agrippa procrastinated answering God’s call.
- Sometimes when we proclaim the gospel, we don’t see the end result—but don’t let that stop you from planting or watering the seed! 1 Cor. 3:6-8, “Paul planted, Apollos watered, but it’s God that gives the growth.”

Step 03: Lead group discussion.

Note: Do your best to keep the discussion going. Make sure you have read through the questions beforehand and are primed with

Community Group Discussion Guide

thoughts of your own. Make everyone get specific with *how* they will apply this message in their own lives and in community—*no vague ideas allowed!*

Specific to this week's message:

1. How familiar are you with your own testimony? Have you given it much thought?
2. Do you feel comfortable articulating the gospel message?
3. What keeps you from sharing the gospel and your testimony?
4. How could you “demonstrate” the gospel for people who maybe aren’t ready for a “proclamation” yet?
5. Do you ever encounter opposition when you share your faith or even just talk about your faith? What does that look like / feel like?
6. How can we as a group and as individuals continue to grow in our proclamation of the gospel to those who haven’t heard or don’t believe in Jesus?

General questions:

7. How did this message encourage you? How did it convict you?
8. What is your plan for applying this message to your personal/daily life?
9. What might it look like for us to live this out in community?
10. Was there anything about this message that stood out to you?