



FALL 2025 // WEEK 1

GrowGroup Questions

Sermon Based Groups // October 5, 2025

Pastor Pat Finley // Acts 25



Introduction

As we journey through the book of Acts together, we're discovering what it truly means to live as disciples of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. The early church reminds us that following Christ requires courage, unity, and faithfulness in a world that often opposes the gospel. Today we look at how believers are to bring glory to God even when things don't go according to plan.

We encourage you to take some time to read through the questions on the following pages and jot down your thoughts before meeting with your group. Many people also find it helpful to use these questions as a guide for taking notes during the sermon. The purpose of these questions is to spark reflection and encourage meaningful conversation. Remember, you don't need to work through every single question each week—focus on the ones that are most helpful for you and your group.

Getting Started

Transition into group discussion.

- 1) Open group discussion with prayer. Here are a few potential prayer items:
 - a. For our group to be Spirit-led and for God's blessings.
 - b. For the fruit of the Spirit to be cultivated in your lives
 - c. For grace to hear and apply what the Spirit says to you
- 2) Choose someone to read the passage aloud for the group or read them as you come to them in the questions.

Study Questions *(Suggested time: 30-40 min)*

1. What was your favorite part of the message today? How did it speak to you?
2. Paul had been in prison for two years before Festus succeeded Felix. (Acts 24:27) Why do you think the Jews were still so hostile toward Paul and sought to kill him? (v.3)
3. We all have experienced times when things don't turn out as planned and can struggle to find the good in difficult situations. Romans 8:28, Paul states, "all things work together for good...". What are some practical ways to find victory in disappointment?

4. In Isaiah 40:31, God says, “those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength.” How can *waiting* make us stronger? What is our role in *renewing our strength* and what does that look like?
5. Read this statement: *God is more committed to your sanctification than you are.* How does God accomplish this in the life of the believer?
6. What are some ways God has used circumstances to cause you to grow?
7. In 1 Cor. 6:20 (see below) we are told that since Christ took the punishment that was due us, we are obliged to glorify Him with our lives, and our obedience is now due to Him. How does God lovingly help us to fulfil this? Why does God offer believers the opportunity to glorify Him?

Personal Spiritual Exercises

Scripture Focus: The book of Acts gives us a vivid picture of Paul’s return to Jerusalem and the challenges he faced in seeking unity among believers. Acts reminds us that faithfully following Christ often requires humility, flexibility, and a willingness to put the needs of others before our own. As you study these verses, take time to reflect on Paul’s example. Ask yourself: *Am I willing to wait for God’s timing or do I tend to move through life based on my own expectations?*

Prayer (Suggested time: 10-15 min)

A meaningful part of “coming together” is being open and genuine about our lives. For some, praying in a group may feel very natural, while for others it may feel new or uncomfortable. If you would prefer not to pray aloud, you’re welcome to pray silently and simply say “Amen” when you’re finished, signaling the next person to pray. Whether spoken or silent, every prayer is part of this shared time in God’s presence.

Take a few moments to think about a prayer request. How has today’s message, the questions above, or the group discussion helped you see something new about your relationship with Jesus? Consider sharing this as your request so the group can pray with you and for you.

*“For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit,
which are God’s.” (1 Cor. 6:20, NKJV)*