

WEEKLY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of Sunday October 25, 2026

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INTRODUCTION

In **Acts 24:10–27**, Paul finds himself waiting in circumstances he cannot control. God is not asking us to pretend waiting is easy or promising that everything will work out the way we want. Instead, He invites us to trust Him and remain faithful, even when we cannot see what He is doing. We often struggle between wanting to take control and feeling powerless to change our circumstances. But waiting can become an opportunity to grow in trust, obedience, and dependence on Jesus.

Main Passage:

Acts 24:10–27

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

While You Wait

READ ALOUD

Acts 24:10–27

Opening Question: What is something you find especially difficult to wait for, and why?

- What stands out to you about how Paul responds to his circumstances?
- What do you notice about Felix's responses and how Paul's situation unfolds?
- What does Paul's example teach us about remaining faithful when our circumstances don't change?
- How might our perspective on waiting change if we focused more on being faithful than on controlling the outcome?

APPLY

- Where in your life are you waiting for something outside your control, and what has been most difficult about trusting God in that situation?
- Where might you be tempted to force an outcome, take a shortcut, or delay something God has already called you to do?
- Who has God placed around you that you could encourage, serve, or share Jesus with while you're waiting?

RESPOND

- What is one promise from Scripture you can hold on to and reflect on each day this week?
- Who is one person you can share what you're carrying with and invite to pray alongside you this week?

DIGGING DEEPER *(optional)*

Acts 24:1–9

- What accusations are being made against Paul, and how do they compare with his response later in the chapter?
- What differences do you notice between how Paul's accusers present their case and how Paul defends himself?
- What can we learn from Paul's example about remaining truthful and faithful when we're misunderstood or treated unfairly?

PRAY

Invite everyone to reflect on something they're waiting for or struggling to trust God with. Pray for patience, courage to obey what God has already made clear, and strength to remain faithful without forcing an outcome. Ask God to help the group encourage one another, share burdens, and recognize opportunities to serve others. Thank Jesus for His presence, grace, and faithfulness, even when circumstances remain unchanged.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILIES

Acts 24:10–27

- What is something that's really hard for you to wait for?
- Paul had to wait a long time in prison. What did he continue doing while he waited?
- When something doesn't happen as quickly as we'd like, how can we show that we trust Jesus?
- Who could we help or encourage this week, even if we're having a difficult time ourselves?

For younger children: Help your child understand that Jesus is always with us, and we can trust Him and do what's right even when waiting is hard.

For older kids or students: Where are you tempted to rush ahead or take a shortcut instead of trusting Jesus, and what would obedience look like this week?

BIBLE READING PLAN (OPTIONAL)

Scripture to read as you pray this week:

- **Day 1:** Acts 25:1–5
- **Day 2:** Acts 25:6–12
- **Day 3:** Acts 25:13–17
- **Day 4:** Acts 25:18–22
- **Day 5:** Acts 25:23–27

What's Going On?

In Acts 23:11, Jesus tells Paul that he will testify about Him in Rome. But instead of immediately going there, Paul finds himself imprisoned in Caesarea, facing accusations before the Roman governor Felix. Paul continues to defend his faith and share the hope of the resurrection, even when his circumstances are outside his control.

Felix repeatedly listens to Paul but refuses to release him, eventually leaving him imprisoned for two years. Although Paul cannot control his situation, he remains faithful to Jesus. In Acts 25, Paul appeals to Caesar, moving him toward Rome just as Jesus promised. His story reminds us that waiting does not mean God has forgotten us.

A Bit of Background

In Acts 24:23, Felix allows Paul's friends to visit and care for his needs while he remains under guard. Roman prisoners often depended on family and friends for food, clothing, and other necessities.

Even Paul, who spent much of his life serving others, needed people to care for him. This reminds us that God often strengthens and encourages us through other believers. We aren't meant to carry life's burdens alone.