WEEKLY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of Sunday November 1, 2026

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INTRODUCTION

In **Acts 26:12–29**, Paul demonstrates what it looks like to follow Jesus faithfully, even when others question or reject what we believe. Jesus isn't asking us to convince everyone or control how they respond, but He does invite us to courageously share the hope we have in Him. Sometimes we hesitate because we're afraid of what others might think, or we become frustrated when people don't respond the way we hoped. This passage challenges us to trust God with the outcome while allowing Jesus to shape our words, attitudes, and obedience.

Main Passage:

Acts 26:12–29

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Crazy?

READ ALOUD

Acts 26:12–29

Opening Question: What helps you find the courage to speak up when something really matters to you?

- What does Jesus tell Paul to do, and how does Paul respond?
- What stands out about the way Paul responds to Festus and Agrippa?
- What does Paul's example teach us about sharing our faith with both courage and kindness?
- What might it look like to faithfully represent Jesus without trying to control how others respond?

APPLY

- Where do you find it most difficult to openly live out or talk about your faith in Jesus?
- What is one area of your life where you may be delaying something Jesus is asking you to do?
- How can your words and actions better reflect the love of Jesus, especially toward people who disagree with you?

RESPOND

- Who is one person you can intentionally pray for, encourage, or talk with about Jesus this week?
- What is one specific step of obedience you believe Jesus is inviting you to take this week?

DIGGING DEEPER *(optional)*

Acts 26:1–11

- How does Paul describe his life and beliefs before meeting Jesus?
- What does Paul say about God's promises and the hope of the resurrection?
- How does knowing Paul's past help us better understand his courage and message later in the chapter?

PRAY

Invite group members to reflect on what God may be showing them through this passage. Pray for courage to represent Jesus with truth and love, and for hearts willing to trust and obey Him regardless of the outcome. Ask God to reveal any areas where repentance or a step of faith is needed. Thank Jesus for His grace, forgiveness, and power to transform lives.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILIES

Acts 26:12–29

- What happened to Paul that changed his life?
- What did Paul do when someone thought he was crazy for following Jesus?
- How can we be kind to people who don't believe the same things we do?
- Who is someone we could show Jesus' love to this week?

For younger children: Remind your children that following Jesus means listening to Him, obeying Him, and showing His love to others, even when it's difficult.

For older kids or students: Where might you be tempted to stay quiet about following Jesus, and how could you respond with both courage and kindness?

BIBLE READING PLAN (OPTIONAL)

Scripture to read as you pray this week:

- **Day 1:** Acts 27:1–8
- **Day 2:** Acts 27:9–12
- **Day 3:** Acts 27:13–26
- **Day 4:** Acts 27:27–38
- **Day 5:** Acts 27:39–44

What's Going On?

In Acts 26, Paul stands before King Agrippa and Governor Festus, sharing how his encounter with the risen Jesus completely changed his life. Once a persecutor of Christians, Paul now boldly proclaims the very Jesus he once opposed. He explains that Jesus called him to open people's eyes to the truth, turn them from darkness to light, and proclaim forgiveness through faith in Him.

When Festus accuses Paul of being out of his mind, Paul responds with courage, truth, and respect. Agrippa hears Paul's testimony but does not commit to following Jesus. Although Scripture doesn't tell us that anyone becomes a believer that day, Paul has faithfully done what Jesus called him to do. His responsibility was to be a witness, not determine the outcome.

A Bit of Background

Paul is standing before these leaders because he has been accused by Jewish authorities and has appealed his case to Caesar. Festus struggles to identify any crime Paul has committed, so he asks King Agrippa, who understands Jewish beliefs and customs, to hear Paul's defense. What appears to be a difficult situation becomes an opportunity for Paul to share the gospel with influential leaders.

The resurrection of Jesus is at the center of Paul's testimony and the controversy surrounding him. For Paul, the resurrection isn't simply something he believes happened. It's the reason his entire life has changed. Even when his message is questioned or rejected, he remains faithful to Jesus. His example teaches us that obedience means speaking the truth with love and trusting God with how others respond.