



## **ACTS CHAPTER 26 (FACILITATOR)**

### **Discussion Starter**

- What is one of the best “stories of transformation” that you have ever heard or witnessed outside of any stories in the Bible?

### **Opening Prayer**

- Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

### **Tell the Story**

#### **Read the Story (Acts 26:1-32)**

Read out loud as a group, 5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

### **Breaking it Down**

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

#### **Acts 26:1-18**

- “The Bible NEVER flatters its heroes. It tells us the truth about each one of them in order that against the background of human breakdown and failure we may magnify the grace of God and recognize that it is the delight of the Spirit of God to work upon the platform of human impossibilities.” Alan Redpath
  - What do you think this quote means?
  - Do you agree or disagree with this quote? Why?
    - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- Why do you think Paul tells Agrippa that he considers himself fortunate to stand before him when he is really on trial for his life?
  - Paul, again in less than ideal circumstances considers those circumstances as yet more opportunities to use the platforms he has been given to share the message of Jesus.



- Is it easier to respond as a victim or victor in less than ideal circumstances? Why?
  - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- Notice the result of the “hope” that Paul speaks of in verses 6-7. Why is this significant?
  - Paul says that his hope is what has him on trial and he also says that this same hope is why the Jews are accusing him. Paul’s hope isn’t just some warm fuzzy feeling that ebbs and flows with his emotions. It is a constant. It is stable. It is transformative. And, the hope is dangerous because it doesn’t settle for the status quo but calls for revolution.
    - If someone asked you if your hope in Jesus Christ is dangerous, how would you respond?
      - This is an opinion and perspective question so please listen as the facilitator.
- Reread verses 9-11. How did Paul use his past to put Jesus on full display?
  - Paul wasn’t afraid to be transparent about his past and not in proud ways but in ways that demonstrated the previous life that God had brought him out of.
    - How are you transparent about your past in ways that put Jesus on full display? Is there anything scary about this?
      - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- Notice in verse 12 that Paul describes his journey toward killing Christians as being authorized by the religious leaders but in verse 17, Paul points to the reality that Jesus is now commissioning and sending him. Why is this significant?
  - When Saul encountered Jesus, there was a major difference in the authority that he now placed his life under. His agenda was no longer the most important. The agendas of the religious leaders were no longer most important. It was the agenda of Jesus that took first place in his life.

## Acts 26:19-32



- How did Paul remain undeterred in his mission even when he faced resistance from Festus and King Agrippa? What lessons are present for us in Paul's response?
  - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

### **Final Application**

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

### **Closing & Prayer Requests**

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Acts Chapter 27)



## **ACTS CHAPTER 26 (STUDENT)**

### **Discussion Starter**

- What is one of the best “stories of transformation” that you have ever heard or witnessed outside of any stories in the Bible?

### **Opening Prayer**

- Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

### **Tell the Story**

#### **Read the Story (Acts 26:1-32)**

Read out loud as a group, 5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

### **Breaking it Down**

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### **Acts 26:1-18**

- “The Bible NEVER flatters its heroes. It tells us the truth about each one of them in order that against the background of human breakdown and failure we may magnify the grace of God and recognize that it is the delight of the Spirit of God to work upon the platform of human impossibilities.” Alan Redpath
  - What do you think this quote means?
  - Do you agree or disagree with this quote? Why?
- Why do you think Paul tells Agrippa that he considers himself fortunate to stand before him when he is really on trial for his life?
  - Is it easier to respond as a victim or victor in less than ideal circumstances? Why?



- Notice the result of the “hope” that Paul speaks of in verses 6-7. Why is this significant?
  - If someone asked you if your hope in Jesus Christ is dangerous, how would you respond?
- Reread verses 9-11. How did Paul use his past to put Jesus on full display?
  - How are you transparent about your past in ways that put Jesus on full display? Is there anything scary about this?
- Notice in verse 12 that Paul describes his journey toward killing Christians as being authorized by the religious leaders but in verse 17, Paul points to the reality that Jesus is now commissioning and sending him. Why is this significant?

### **Acts 26:19-32**

- How did Paul remain undeterred in his mission even when he faced resistance from Festus and King Agrippa? What lessons are present for us in Paul’s response?

### **Final Application**

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

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