

# Acts Week 11/ Family Convo Sheet

As we go through the book of Acts we learn a lot about the early Christian community, the work of God's spirit through his followers, and the communities of people committed to him. As readers of this book, and modern followers of His way, it can be helpful to take time and process together the ways the Holy Spirit is still working in our communities.

## Check in on everyone's week:

- What's been good/ hard?
- Has anyone seen God move in cool ways this week?
- Who has experienced the spirit of God doing something cool or interesting this week?
- Parents - share one way they've experienced God in their lives (doesn't have to be this week)
- Students - share how they've seen God move in their life.

**Pray** - (At COW we always like to pray before reading the Bible together as a community! Pray that God will help us to understand his word, and challenge us to follow him better!)

**Read Acts 21-23 Together as a family!** (This is a big chunk, if it's too much, focus on 21 & 22) Sometimes popcorn reading can be a fun way to break it up. Make sure everyone feels invited to stop the reading and share insights. Parents, feel free to stop the reading and check for understanding... What is going on here? What do you think this tells us about God? etc.)

**Simple Questions** (Acts focuses so much on the work of the Holy Spirit, we want to help students process the work of God's spirit by exploring how the spirit moves us to right thinking, right feeling, and right action.)

- What should we **think about** having read this section of Acts?
- What **emotions** might we feel if we were in the same situation as Paul?
- What **action** should we be encouraged to take having read this?

**Watch Video #11** - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hr7KrJ\\_PoaM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hr7KrJ_PoaM)

## Discuss Allie's insights

- Was there anything that Allie shared that stood out to you? Explain why!

Allie shared three good examples and one example of something we should be careful of, let's recap!

**Community is important!** Allie shares how when Paul and his friends went from town to town, they would always find the community of believers first, and spend time with them..

- Why was the Christian community so important to them?
- How can we maintain meaningful community during social isolation?
- Gameplan as a family one way you can connect creatively with another family that you love! (maybe play a board game over facetime!)

**The Holy Spirit is consistent and persistent!** Allie shares how the Holy Spirit was persistent in warning Paul to not go to Jerusalem... It's nice to know that God doesn't give up on us even when we miss his message a first time

- What does this section teach us about God?
- Why is God's persistence important to us?
- Why might it be important to remember God's consistency and persistence during this season of history?
- Why did Paul continue on despite the warnings? What does this say about how important he thought his mission was?

**Paul shares about Jesus... in a scary situation:** Next, Allie talks about a time when Paul is in front of an angry mob, and he uses his opportunity to share about How God had changed his life...

- How might you share with someone how God has changed YOUR life?
- Parents - take a moment to give your kiddos a 1 minute version of your own testimony. How has God changed your life?
- Students - If you're up for it, take a moment to share with your family how God has changed your life!

**Something we should be careful to avoid:** Allie ends by talking about how the people in the crowd lose their minds when Paul says that he was committed to teaching gentiles about Jesus. Just like them, we sometimes write people off completely when we find out something about them that we don't like or agree with, or if we have a bad relational experience...

- How would you feel if someone wrote you off because of something small (a political opinion, a video game preference, a mistake)?
- Why would that be unfair?
- Why are we sometimes tempted to do this to other people?
- How can we encourage each other to be more forgiving/ understanding of others?
- Take a moment to make a family game plan to encourage each other to look for the best in people, even if you disagree with them, or they annoy you.

**Take a final moment to pray & ask that God would help your family move forward trusting Jesus more this week!**