



**Intro:** Last week, Acts 17 and how to share your faith...

- cf. 1 Peter 3:15 and necessity of faith sharing.
- Friend Day and sharing faith thru the community of faith (aka the Church)...

Read: Acts 21-22

- Acts 21 at the tail end of Paul's 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary journey...
- v.1-6—Paul: love him or hate him...deep relational bonds...
- v.7-14—To go or not to go to Jerusalem???
  - The Spirit's warning or red lighting trip (v.4, 11, 14 cf.20:22-24)...
  - Pain can sometimes be in the plans of God!!!
- v.15-26—Paul reports on Gentile believers, Jerusalem leaders report on Jewish believers.
  - Early church issue continued: how does a follower of Jesus relate to Jewish law?
- v.27-36—How quickly life can change!
- Untrue accusation starts uproar...
- v.37-39—Further misunderstandings...

v.40-22:21—Using language the audience can relate to…key to opening dialogue!

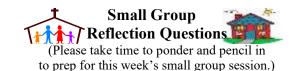
• As a Jew speaking to Jews, Paul shares his faith in ways a Jew would understand...

v.21-30—Offense arises at the inclusion of the Gentiles...

• God's heart for the whole world...

## Pondering Paul thru Acts 21-22:

1)\_\_\_\_\_ 2)\_\_\_\_\_



Read: Ephesians 3-4 \*From this passage, what do you notice about how Christians are to live?

\*What spoke to you this past Sunday (ie. what made you laugh, learn, look deeper at life etc.)?

\*Opinion: What are your thoughts on the will of God as it relates to Paul going to Jerusalem (cf. 20:22-23, 21:4, 11, 14)? Was God's will for Paul to go or not to go? Explain.

\*Sum up your story: In Acts 22, Paul had a limited window to share his faith journey with fellow Jews. In <u>2 minutes or less</u>, can you tell when Jesus became real to you? Share.

\*In some of the skipped Acts content, when Paul preached, immoral businesses suffered in town (cf. 19:17-20, 23-41). What would change in Bellevue if people took to following Jesus wholeheartedly?

\*One of the points this past Sunday was on Paul taking time for his relationships with others (20:36-21:8). What is one relationship in your life now that you feel God wanting you to take more time for?

3)