

## Message Outline

*Paul: The Beginning  
of the End*

### Acts 21-22



## Small Group Reflection Questions

(Please take time to ponder and pencil in to prep for this week's small group session.)

*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 2 minutes or less, 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?*

**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) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_