

*Acts of the Apostles*

*Luke, the beloved physician*

*Discussion Session 1*

*Chapters 1-5*

*Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible (pgs. 1865-1877)*

**Outline:**

- I. Home missions (Acts 1-12)  
The witness to the Jews in Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria. Outstanding leader—Peter.  
Important city—Jerusalem.
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The witness to the Gentiles, to the “uttermost parts!”  
Outstanding leader—Paul.  
Important cities—Antioch, Ephesus, and Rome.

**Things to do:**

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3. Be able to locate on the map, the places mentioned in Acts 1-12.
4. Draw Paul’s first and second journeys on the map, and Paul’s third and fourth on the maps provided.
5. Memorize Acts 1:8, 4:12, 16:31 (Optional)
6. Make a report on the life of at least one great missionary.

**Discussion Questions:**

*Home Missions—Acts 1-12*

**ACTS 1**

1. For how many days after the resurrection was Jesus seen on Earth? (1:3) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why where the disciples not to depart from Jerusalem? (1:4-5) \_\_\_\_\_
3. In what order are the places mentioned to which the disciples were to go as witnesses?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What did the two men in white say about Jesus' returning to earth again?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. About how many altogether were in the upper room? (1:15)  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Who was chosen to take Judas' place? \_\_\_\_\_

## ACTS 2

1. On what day did the Holy Spirit come? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What three outward things happened to show that the Holy Spirit had come? (2:2-4)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did those in Jerusalem marvel? (2:7-8)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Who stood up to explain what had happened?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What connection did Christ (whom these Jews crucified) have with the strange happenings among the believers in Jerusalem at Pentecost? (2:32-36)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What words did Peter have for those who were sorry they had crucified Jesus? (2:37-40)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. As the result of Peter's sermon how many people became believers? \_\_\_\_\_

## ACTS 3

1. Who asked for alms (money) at the gate called Beautiful of the Temple?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How long had the man been lame? (3:2, 4:22)  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What did Peter say to him?

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4. How did Peter explain the lame man's being healed? (3:12-16)

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## ACTS 4

1. What did the Sadducees do to Peter and John when they heard them giving the resurrected Jesus the glory for the healing of the lame man? (4:1-3)

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2. How many believed after hearing this second sermon of Peter's? (4:4)

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3. In the morning what did the Sanhedrin ask them? (4:7)

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4. What did Peter, who was filled with the Holy Ghost/Spirit, reply? (4:10)

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5. What other wonderful statements about the name of Jesus did Peter make? (4:12)

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6. What did the Sanhedrin command these apostles not to do?

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7. After this experience what is the main thing for which the Christian company prayer? (4:23-31)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What did Barnabas do? (4:36-37)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Why do you think the Christians shares their possessions?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. How is this alike or different from communism today?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ACTS 5

1. What evil thing did Ananias and Sapphira do?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What was their punishment?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What effect did this have on the church? (5:11)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is said of the growth of the early church? (5:14)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What power had the apostles been given? (5:12-16)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What did the Sadducees do to the apostles?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. When the council met the next morning why could the guards not bring the apostles from the prison?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Where were the apostles found fearlessly preaching?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. When reminded that the council had commended them not to preach about Jesus what did the apostles say? (5:29)

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10. What argument did Gamaliel use that kept the Sanhedrin from slaying the apostles? (5:36-39, especially 38-39)

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11. How did the apostles feel about their imprisonment and beating? (5:40-42)

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*Acts of the Apostles*  
*Luke, the beloved physician*  
*Discussion Session 2*  
*Chapters 6-10*  
*Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible (pgs.)*

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6. Make a report on the life of at least one great missionary.

**Discussion Questions**

*Home Missions- ACTS 1-12*

**ACTS 6**

1. How many men did the brethren choose to take over the church business of serving tables, looking after the widows, etc.?  

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2. What were the twelve apostles to do? (6:2,4)  

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3. How is Stephen, one of these deacons, described? (6:8, 10)

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4. How did Stephen look when all manner of false witnesses spoke against him? (6:15)

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## ACTS 7

1. After reviewing Israel's history before the council what strong accusation did Stephen make? (7:51-52)

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2. When Stephen looked up into heaven what did he say he saw?

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3. On casting him out of the city how did they kill Stephen?

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4. At whose feet were the witnesses' clothes laid?

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5. What was Stephen's last prayer?

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6. Who else had prayed such a forgiving prayer? (Luke 23:24)

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7. The name Stephen means "crown." Why would he receive a crown in glory? (Rev. 2:10)

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## ACTS 8

1. What was the result of the persecution in Jerusalem? (8:1-4)

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2. What deacon preached in Samaria?

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3. Who in Samaria was rebuked by Philip for offering to buying the power of the Holy Ghost/Spirit?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Whom did Philip see in a chariot near Gaza?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Of whom did the verse speak which the Ethiopian read in Isaiah 53:7-8? (8:30-35)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. After the Ethiopian had been baptized what happened to Philip? (8:39-40)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ACTS 9

1. Why was Saul going to Damascus?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What did he see near Damascus?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What did Saul say when he realized his mistake in persecuting the Christians? (9:6)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How long was Saul blind?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What believer in Damascus visiting Saul, caused him to receive his sight and baptized him?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. After Saul was converted, how did the Jews in Damascus treat him? (9:20-25)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



7. Who in Jerusalem welcomed Saul into the fellowship of the believers there?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. When the Grecians were about to slay Saul where did the brethren send him?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*(This was Saul's own birthplace.)*
9. What miracle did Peter perform at Lydda?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What were some of the Dorca's good works? (9:36, 39)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Why did Peter go from Lydda to Joppa?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Later with who did Peter stay at Joppa? (9:43)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ACTS 10

1. Describe Cornelius.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Where did Cornelius live?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What did Peter see in his vision on the house top of Joppa?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What did God tell Peter about unclean animals? (10:15)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Also, what people did the Jews consider unclean? (10:28)

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6. What Gentile in Caesarea did Peter now willingly visit?

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7. After Peter preached Christ to the household of Cornelius what amazing thing happened? (10:44, 46)

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8. Did Peter expect God to do this for the Gentiles? (10:45)

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*Acts of the Apostles*  
*Luke, the beloved physician*  
*Discussion Session 3*  
*Chapters 11-15*  
*Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible (pgs.)*

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Discussion Questions

*Home Missions- ACTS 1-12*

**ACTS 11**

1. What great experience did Peter explain to the Jewish brethren in Jerusalem? (11:1-18)  

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2. Who was sent to strengthen the believers in Antioch? (11:22)  

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3. Whom did Barnabas bring from Tarsus to help him in the church at Antioch?  

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4. Where were the disciples first called Christians?  

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5. The church in Antioch sent relief to the brethren in what place?  

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## ACTS 12

1. What king began to persecute the church?  

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2. Who was the first of the twelve apostles to be killed as a martyr?  

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3. When Herod saw this please the Jews, what other apostle was imprisoned?  

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4. What did the church do when Peter was in such danger?  

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5. How were the apostles' prayers miraculously answered? (12:7-10)  

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6. In what house did Peter find the believers gathered together praying?  

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7. What girl answers the door?  

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8. Why did Herod suffer a loathsome death? (12:21-23)
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***Foreign Missions—ACTS 13-28***  
***Introduction to Paul's Life***

**Birth:**

- A. Probably born about the same time as Jesus.
- B. In Tarsus, capital of the province of Cilicia, in Asia Minor.

**Family:**

- A. Jews from the tribe of Benjamin. (Saul may have been named for King Saul.)
- B. Roman citizenship—Paul was free born. This citizenship meant he could never be crucified or scourged and could appeal to Rome for justice.

**Education:**

- A. In Tarsus he would receive the benefits of Greek culture. Tarsus was a famous university town and commercial center.
- B. At Jerusalem under Gamaliel, he received the finest Jewish training and became an outstanding Pharisee.

**Conversion:**

- On the road to Damascus about 36 AD.

**Trips:**

- A. To Cyprus and Asia Minor.....First Journey
- B. To Europe.....Second Journey
- C. To Asia Minor and Europe (especially Ephesus)....Third Journey
- D. To Rome.....Fourth Journey

**Writings:**

- Thirteen or fourteen important New Testament Epistles

**Imprisonments:**

- A. Arrested and imprisoned in Jerusalem.
- B. Held as prisoner in Caesarea for two years.
- C. Taken to Rome where he remained in jail for two years.
- D. Temporarily released.
- E. In the Roman inner prison, he died a martyr under Nero.

**Paul's First Missionary Journey and Resulting Church Conference**

**ACTS 13-15:35**

*Beneath the following names of places and subjects summarize what took place.*

- A. Saul's Companions: \_\_\_\_\_ and John Mark.
- B. Send out from the church

C. At Salamis on the Island of Cyprus

D. Paphos on the Island of Cyprus (13:6-12)

E. Perga in Asia Minor (13:13)

F. Antioch in Asia Minor (13:14-50)

Paul preached Christ in the synagogue on the Sabbath.  
(13:14-41)

What else happened?

G. Iconium (13:51-14:5)

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H. Lystra (14:8-20)

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I. Derbe (14:20-21)

J. Back to Lystra, Iconium, Antioch, Perga (14:21-25)

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K. Sailed from Attalia from Asian Minor back home to \_\_\_\_\_ in Syria (14:25-28).

### CHURCH COUNCIL IN JERUSALEM ABOUT 50 AD (15:1-36)

**Question discussed:** Must one become a Jew before becoming a Christian? (15:5-6)

\_\_\_\_\_ said God had sent the Holy Spirit to Gentiles. (15:7-11)

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ spoke of wonders among the Gentiles. (15:2)

\_\_\_\_\_ thought the Gentiles should not be troubled by Jewish laws but should not offend the Jewish believers. The wrote \_\_\_\_\_ to the Gentiles stating this. (15:13-31)

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*Discussion Session 4*  
*Chapters 16-20*  
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Discussion Questions

**PAULS SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY—  
ACTS 15:36-18:22**

A. Paul’s companions (15:37-40)

- I. \_\_\_\_\_  
What happened to Barnabas?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Which do you think was right, Paul or Barnabas?

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2. \_\_\_\_\_ (16:1-3)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (the author of the book joins the party when he uses “we”.) (16:10)

B. Purpose (15:36)

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C. From Antioch in Syria by land to the churches in Syria and Cilicia.

D. Lystra (16:1-3)

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E. Forbidden by the Holy Ghost/Spirit to go to Asia or Bithynia.

F. Troas (16:8-10)

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How was Paul’s journey into Europe affected us?

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G. Phillipi (having come by boat from Troas to Neapolis)

1. First European convert (16:12-15)

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2. Possessed a girl restored (16:16-19)

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3. In jail at Phillipi (16:20-40)

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H. Thessalonica (17:1-9)

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I. Berea (17:10-14)

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J. Athens (17:15-34)

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K. Corinth (18:1-17)

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L. By boat to Ephesus in Asia Minor (18:18-21)

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M. Caesarea, Jerusalem, Antioch in Syria.

*Letters written on second journey: 1 and 2 Thessalonians were written by Paul from Corinth to the church a Thessalonica.*

**Paul's Third Missionary Journey—Acts 18:23-21:17**

*“Turned the Greek world upside down.”*

A. Again revisited the Asia Minor churches (18:23)

B. At Ephesus

Holy Ghost/Spirit came (19:1-7)

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In Synagogue (19:8)

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In the school of Tyrannus (19:9-10)

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Paul's miracles (19:11-17)

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Signs of true turning to Christ from idols (19:18-27)

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Uprising concerning Diana (19:23-41)

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C. Revisited and encouraged churches in Macedonia and also in Southern Greece and returned to Philippi in Macedonia.

Companions (20:4)

S \_\_\_\_\_

T \_\_\_\_\_

S \_\_\_\_\_

G \_\_\_\_\_

T \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_

T \_\_\_\_\_

D. Troas (20:6-12)

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E. Melitus (met elders from Ephesus) (20:17-38)

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F. Landed at Tyre (21:3-6)

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G. Ptolemais by sea (21:7)

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H. Caesarea by sea (21:8-16)

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I. Jerusalem

***Letters written on third journey: 1 and 2 Corinthians,  
Galatians, Romans.***

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*Discussion Session 5*  
*Chapters 21-24*  
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**Discussion Questions:**

**Paul’s Fourth Journey, From Jerusalem to Rome**  
**ACTS 21:18-28:31 (Part I)**

**I. Arrested in Jerusalem**

1. What false report was given about Paul? (21:28-29)

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2. How was Paul rescued? (21:31-32)

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3. What language did Paul use in asking the chief captain if he could speak to the people?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What language did Paul use when he spoke to the Jew in Jerusalem? (21:4-22:2)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. List a few important facts about Paul's life that are mentioned in Paul's defense before the multitude. (22:1-21)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What did the multitude do when Paul mentioned his being sent by God to the Gentiles?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. How did Paul escape from being scourged? (22;24-29)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. On the next day when brought before the council, the Sanhedrin, what did Paul say that caused a great argument and confusion among its members? (23:6-10)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. What did the Lord promise Paul that night? (23:11)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. How many were in the band that promised not to eat or drink until they had killed Paul?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What was their plan for killing Paul?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Who told the plot to Paul and later to the chief captain?  
(23:16)

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## II. *Prisoner in Caesarea*

1. What governor lived in caesarea?
2. Who came to Felix in Caesarea to speak against Paul?  
(24:1)

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3. After Paul's words of defense before Felix what privileges were given him as a prisoner?

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4. After Paul spoke before Felix and his Jewish wife, Drusilla, why was Paul not released?

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5. How long was Paul a prisoner before the new governor Festus came into office? (24:27)

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*Discussion Session 6*  
*Chapters 25-28*  
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**Discussion Questions:**

**Paul’s Fourth Journey, From Jerusalem to Rome**  
**ACTS 21:18-28:31 (Part 2)**

1. To please the Jews where did Festus offer to give Paul a trial? (25:9)  

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2. Knowing a trial in Jerusalem would not bring him justice to whom did Paul appeal? (25:10-11)  

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3. What did Festus think of Paul's innocence? (25:24-25)

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4. Before whom did Paul next make a great speech? (25:23-26:23)

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5. What did Agrippa say of Paul's message? (26:28)

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6. What did Agrippa and Festus think of Paul? (26:31-32)

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### C. Journey to Rome

1. What centurion guarded Paul?

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2. At which stop was Paul allowed to visit friends?

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3. To what place was the ship going on which they set sail at Myra? (27:5-6)

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4. At Fair Havens in Crete what suggestion or warning did Paul make? (27:8-12)

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5. In what place did the crew prefer to spend the winter? (27:12)

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6. In trying to sail to this port what happened? (27:13-20)

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7. What cheerful message did Paul have for those on ship?  
(27:22-26)
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8. What did Paul say to the crew who tried to escape privately  
in the lifeboat? (27:30-32)
- 
- 
- 
9. How long were they driven by the storm? (27:27, 33)
- 
- 
- 
10. How many were on the ship? (27:37)
- 
- 
- 
11. How did the centurion guarding Paul save his life? (27:42-  
44)
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- 
12. Where did they land? (28:1) (*This is the same island as Malta  
today*)
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- 
13. What did the people of Melita think about Paul when he  
was bitten by the serpent? (28:1-4)
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- 
- 
14. What did they think when he did not die? (27:5-6)
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- 
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15. What miracle of healing did Paul perform on the island?
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- 
16. How long did they stay at Melita? (28:11)
- 
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- 
17. At which places did they stop before reaching Rome?  
S\_\_\_\_\_, R\_\_\_\_\_, P\_\_\_\_\_
18. How did the Christian brethren honor Paul? (28:14-15)
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19. To whom did Paul first present the gospel in Rome? (28:17)

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20. When some did not believe to whom did Paul then present salvation? (28:28)

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21. How long did Paul teach and preach in Rome as a prisoner in his own hired house?

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*Letters written from Roman prison: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon.*

*Letters written during temporary release from prison: 1 Timothy, Titus.*

*Letters written during final imprisonment: 2 Timothy*

**THE UNFINISHED BOOK:** Acts closes abruptly. The history of the church continues on. The heroes of the church and missions have each contributed their chapter and will continue to do so till God's mission plan for the world has been completed and Christ appears as ruler of all. (Matthew 24:14)

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