



BIBLE STUDY

NEW BIRTH BAPTIST CHURCH, CATHEDRAL OF FAITH INTERNATIONAL

Bible Study Scripture Theme: 2 Timothy 2:15

August 12, 2025

Dr. Ingrid Bethune, Instructor

The Book of Acts

THEME: CAN I GET A WITNESS - THE GOSPEL TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

THEME SCRIPTURE: ACTS 1:8

Lesson Topic: Paul's Boldness and the Reactions of His Audience

Lesson Scripture: Acts 26:24-32

Purpose: This passage serves as an encouragement to remain steadfast in faith, to use personal testimony effectively, and to engage respectfully and rationally with skeptics.

I. BACKGROUND

A. *When:* The events of Acts 26 occur around 59 A.D.

B. *Characters:* Paul, Agrippa, Festus, Bernice, Jesus, Moses and the Prophets

C. *Places:* Jerusalem, Damascus, Judea

II. INTRODUCTION: PAUL'S PERMISSION TO SPEAK (26:1-3)

- King Agrippa grants Paul permission to speak.
- Paul expresses gratitude for the opportunity.
- Acknowledges Agrippa's familiarity with Jewish customs and controversies.

III. PAUL'S EARLY LIFE AND PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS (26:4-11)

- Paul summarizes his upbringing as a Pharisee.
- Emphasizes his zeal for Jewish traditions.
 - ✓ Paul would have been very familiar with the *Old Testament Scriptures*, yet his biased reading of them led him to miss how they all *Pointed* to *Jesus*.

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- Hope is a key word, appearing three times in vv. 6-7
- Describes his intense persecution of Christians:
 - ✓ He **Imprisoned** some
 - ✓ **Voted** for their **Execution**
 - ✓ **Forcing** them to **blaspheme**
 - ✓ **Pursuing** them even to foreign cities

IV. PAUL'S CONVERSION EXPERIENCE (26:12-23)

- A. Context– Paul's defense before King Agrippa,
- B. Purpose – Recounting his conversion and mission
- C. Paul's Journey to Damascus – V. 12
- D. Vision of Jesus – VV. 13-15
- E. Jesus's Commission to Paul – VV. 16-18
 - ✓ Turn them from **Darkness** to **Light**
 - ✓ Turn from **Satan** to **God**
 - ✓ **Receive Forgiveness**
- F. Paul's Obedience to the Vision – VV. 19-20
 - ✓ Preached in **Damascus, Jerusalem, Judea**, and to the **Gentiles**.
 - ✓ **Repentance**, turning to God, and demonstrating **Repentance** through **Deeds**.
- G. Opposition and Divine Help – VV. 21-23

V. FESTUS INTERRUPTS PAUL – V. 24

- A. Festus Loud Outburst
 - Paul's C _____ reminds us to stand firm in our B _____, even when misunderstood or mocked.

VI. PAUL'S CALM AND REASONED RESPONSE – V. 25

- A. Denial of Madness
- B. Defense of His Message
 - F _____ is R _____.
 - C _____ isn't blind faith—it's rooted in h _____ events and logical t _____.

VII. PAUL'S APPEALS TO KING AGRIPPA'S KNOWLEDGE – VV. 26-27

- A. Paul's Confidence in Agrippa's familiarity with Jewish customs and prophecies
- B. A Direct question to Agrippa
 - God's T _____ is not H _____.
 - The G _____ is meant to be proclaimed O _____ and B _____.

VIII. AGRIPPA'S FAMOUS RESPONSE – V. 28

- A. Almost Persuaded
 - A _____ persuades isn't E _____.

IX. PAUL’S PASSIONATE APPEAL – V. 29

A. Salvation for all

B. Love for Others Motivate your Evangelism

➤ C _____ don’t stop the M _____.

X. THE LEADER’S PRIVATE DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION - VV. 30-32

A. Freedom Could Have Been Granted

B. God Uses Political and Legal Systems for His purposes

➤ A L _____ lived with I _____ can speak
volumes, even to those in p _____.

XII. PRACTICAL APPLICATION

- 1. Don’t let mockery silence your testimony.** Trust in God’s wisdom, not human approval.
- 2. Learn to Explain your faith clearly and lovingly (1 Peter 3:15).** Reasonable, respectful defense of the gospel is powerful.
- 3. Tailor your witness to people’s experiences – don’t share a one-size-fits-all gospel.** Paul used Agrippa’s background to connect with him.
- 4. Plant seeds, even if you don’t see immediate fruit.** Skepticism is part of ministry. Conversion is God’s work.
- 5. Pray for others with genuine love, even those who oppose you.** Paul’s concern was for souls, not his own comfort.
- 6. God can use setbacks to advance His greater plan in your life.** Paul’s detainment was unjust but providential.

Notes: _____

