

Sermon Notes

Wi-Fi password for westwoodguestsecured: westwoodguest

Faithful Under Fire

Acts 24 (pew Bible pgs. 933-934)

Today we continue our journey through the book of Acts and follow the storyline of Paul as he makes his way towards Rome. In today's text we see another difficult season in Paul's life, and see what it looks like to be faithful under fire from those who oppose Christ, his people and his kingdom. We see what it looks like to walk with Jesus through the fire of opposition and accusations and trust him as we do. We also see the power of a consistent Christian witness and a model of how to faithfully declare Biblical truth. Paul didn't shy away from addressing important (and unpopular) gospel truths such as holiness, sin, and judgment, all the while standing on the hope found in the resurrection. Finally, we see in Felix how *not* to respond to the gospel. Worldly desires and procrastination in spiritual matters have eternal consequences. When it comes to making a decision about Jesus, time is not on our side.

Facing the Fire: The Actions and Accusations of Kingdom Opponents (Acts 24:1-9)

The Guise of Worldly Flattery

The Weapon of Exaggeration and Lies

The Application for Us: _____

Faithful in the Fire: A Consistent Gospel Witness in Public and Private (24: 10-21)

Respectful Acknowledgement vs. worldly flattery

The power of consistency in our public life

The importance of a faithful gospel witness to every audience

The Application for Us: _____

Fateful Response to the Gospel: The deadly choice of deciding not to decide (24:22-27)

The folly of worldly ambition (political position and influence)

The danger of worldly desire (hoping to receive a bribe- seeking financial gain)

The danger of procrastination (deciding not to decide)

The Application for Us: _____

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Weekly Discipleship Guide

Sunday

In your journal, reflect on today's sermon by answering the following:

I never knew:

I was challenged:

I was reminded:

I was convicted:

A question I still have:

A truth I could share:

Know

Monday

Spend some time today doing the following:

Read the sermon passage again.

Select a portion of this week's sermon passage to memorize this week.

Write your selected portion and read it to yourself at least 10 times throughout the day.

Know > Be

Tuesday

In your journal, spend some time writing about the following:

Read the sermon passage again.

Write a prayer of response, guided by the passage.

(May include adoration, confession/repentance, thanksgiving, petition, etc...)

Write your selected portion of the Scripture several times to aid in memorization.

Be

Wednesday

Think about this week's questions for group discussion:

In Paul we see a consistent gospel witness, no matter the context. Do you find it difficult to try to have a consistent gospel witness in everyday interactions with others? Why? How can this passage encourage us?

How does this episode in Paul's life demonstrate the necessity of living a life that is in accord with the stature we claim to have (in Christ) and the message we proclaim?

Spend some time praying together for boldness in being a gospel witness in the days ahead. Pray for boldness in engaging guests who come to the Fall Family Festival. How might you plan to do that?

Be > Do

Thursday

In your journal, spend some time considering the following:

What insights have you had while internalizing this week's passage?

How specifically will you seek to apply its truths in your home/workplace/life in general?

Do

*Use this guide to help you internalize this week's passage & message.

Westwood Staff

Gerald Hodges: Lead Pastor
Jonathan Taylor: Associate Pastor
Jim Fulp: Counseling Pastor
Jason Engle: Pastor of Students & Discipleship
Katie Austin: Children's Ministry Coordinator

Contact Us

336.599.1982
westwoodroxboro@gmail.com
www.westwoodfamily.org

Upcoming Events

Oct 21 - GriefShare Support Group Meeting
PCLC Support Group Meeting
Oct 24 - PHS Fall Choir Concert
Oct 25 - Person @ McMichael (Away)
Oct 27 - Fall Family Festival
Oct 29 - BBA Senior Adult Day
Nov 1 - PHS vs. Rockingham Co (*Senior Night*)

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