

The Story Continues...

Acts 28:17-31

We come to the conclusion of the book of Acts. What we must realize is the mission of advancing the gospel to each and every person around us is the ongoing mission for all of us who have committed to follow Jesus. In studying Paul's story or Peter's story or Philip's story or Stephen's story, we have in fact been studying the blueprint for our own story. So let's analyze this final passage and then ask some key questions.

✘ Read Acts 28:17-22:

- ☑ There is an urgency to the gospel (28:17).
- ☑ Jesus Christ is our only hope (28:20).
- ☑ There will be people who will listen to our views on Jesus (28:22).
- ☑ There will be opposition to the gospel always (28:22).

✘ Read Acts 28:23-27:

- ☑ Take every opportunity for as long as you can get it (28:23).
- ☑ We must be diligent students of the Word (28:23).
- ☑ Some will believe and some won't (28:24).
- ☑ Faithfulness to the gospel is in the sharing (28:26).

✘ Read Acts 28:28-31:

- ☑ Our focus has to be on those who will listen (28:28).
- ☑ Sharing the gospel will cost you (28:30).
- ☑ Be open to share with anyone who will listen (28:30).
- ☑ Make sure to share a complete gospel (28:31).
- ☑ Trust the Holy Spirit to give the boldness you need (28:31).

Questions to Consider:

- **Paul was so impacted by his encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus that it changed his entire outlook on his life and the lives of those around him. How has or is your encounter with Jesus changing your outlook on life and the lives of those around you?**
- **There are countless lives mentioned in Acts and Paul's letters to the churches—lives that were changed through the direct sharing of the gospel. Who is on the list of people with whom we have shared the gospel? What is it that holds us back from sharing more? (Fear, suffering, lack of knowledge, etc.)**
- **Paul understood his salvation and his mission. His salvation motivated his mission. If someone asked you to describe your salvation and your mission, what would you say? What gifts has God given you to accomplish your mission? Describe a time you have suffered or been persecuted specifically because of your salvation and mission. Why should that motivate you to share more and not less?**