

The Book of Acts

Study Guide and Discussion Questions

Week 16

Chapter 20 - 21

CHAPTER 20:

1. Immediately we learn that Paul is on the move again. Traveling from Macedonia, to Greece to Syria, to Berea region, Philippi and then Troas, strengthening the believers and preaching the Gospel. When they get to Troas, Paul spends the entire night preaching and teaching until a young man falls asleep and then falls to his death. In modern times that probably would be enough to break up the bible study . . . but what happens instead?

2. Then on to Assos and Mitylene, and then to Chios, Samos, Trogyllium, to Miletus and finally to Ephesus. Why did he want to go to Ephesus? What was so important?

3. Have you ever been on the receiving end of instruction from the Holy Spirit where you just knew something that you could not explain? Like Paul knowing he would never see the Ephesians again?

4. Paul recounts the trials and suffering he has already encountered but in verse 24 he reminds them that this was his mission. He was willing to endure whatever suffering was necessary to bring the good news to the people. We see Paul as extraordinary, but what if this is what God expects from each of us? Are you willing to endure suffering? Discomfort? Humiliation? Hunger? Shipwreck? Beatings? To accomplish your heaven sent mission?

5. Verse 29 Paul warns that after he leaves men will arise among them – wolves – who will seek to harm them. Notice these men are not from outside, but rise up from within. What can we learn from this?

6. Verse 34 Paul reminds them of how he worked for his own keep while among them. Why do you think he said this?

7. When Paul is leaving Ephesus they all weep – sorrowful that they will never see each other again. These were not just casual friends – they were family. The family God had knit together. What can we learn from their farewell?

CHAPTER 21:

8. Coos, Rhodes, Patara – they continue on toward Jerusalem. They land at Tyre and meet disciples there who tell them what?

9. They move on to Ceasarea and stay with Philip the Evangelist and his daughters – 4 virgins who prophesy. They are joined by Agabus – also a prophet and what does he have to say?

10. What is the response of Phillip and the others?

11. What is Paul's response?

12. When Paul finally arrives at Jerusalem, he goes to meet with James and the others. They request that Paul adhere to purifications rituals. Why?

13. As is the usual course – the Jews rise up against Paul. The authorities are called and what happens next?

14. We end the chapter with Paul being granted license to speak to the people. Notice that the mission and the message never change. He addresses the people in Hebrew. Why is this of special note?
