Morning Worship Service:

Acts 26: 9 - 29

# Paul's Evangelist Testimony

1.	Paul	Tells	<b>Agrippa</b>	His Story	y Praying	g for His	<b>Conversion</b>	(9)	).

2. His Story Is All About Jesus (9-29).

**3.** Paul Calls Agrippa to Follow Jesus as He Is Doing (9).

CONCLUSION: Paul shares his story with Agrippa to convert him to Christianity. Personal testimony to God's amazing grace applied to our life is one of our most powerful tools of evangelism. How has God worked in your life to bring you to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord? With whom can you share that story today? How can we together prepare to better share our stories with those whom God has brought into our lives? Praise the Lord for His wondrous mercy!

## Colossians 4:2-6

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. <sup>3</sup> At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— <sup>4</sup> that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. <sup>5</sup> Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. <sup>6</sup> Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

## First Corinthians 15:1-6

Now I would remind you, brothers, of *the gospel I preached to you*, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup> and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. <sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: *that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures*, <sup>4</sup> *that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures*, <sup>5</sup> *and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve*. <sup>6</sup> *Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep*.

# First Peter 1:1-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup> obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

# Taking Gathered Worship Home

Are you trying to convert me?! Have you ever had someone ask you that? Paul did. King Agrippa asked Paul, "...would you persuade me to be a Christian?" Paul confessed that was exactly what he was praying God would do—save him just as He had saved Paul. As we read and study this week, pray that God would make us faithful witnesses to Christ.

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

#### **Sunday Morning**

READ Acts 26:9-29; First Peter 1:1-9; 3:13-17; Colossians 4:2-6; First Corinthians 15:1-6; Joshua 1:6-9. DISCUSS How does Paul share his story with Agrippa? Why? How would God have you share your story? MEDITATE on First Peter 3:13-17. PRAY "Lord Jesus, You alone are my Savior. Help me to tell everyone!"

#### **Sunday Evening**

Come join the Young Adults' Fellowship tonight at 6pm. Pray for them!

#### Monday

READ Acts 26:9-29; First Peter 1:1-9; Romans 3:21-26. DISCUSS Our story, for everyone of us in Christ, is that Jesus in His great mercy "has caused us to be born again to a living hope." None of us deserved it because "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." That is why our story is relevant to every other human being on the planet. If Jesus could save even us, He can certainly save our neighbor! MEDITATE on First Peter 3:15. PRAY "Lord Jesus, thank You for Your gift of salvation. Use us to proclaim Your glory."

#### **Tuesday**

READ Acts 26:9-29; First Peter 3:13-17; Second Timothy 2:24-26. DISCUSS How are you preparing to give a reason for the hope within you? How does Paul instruct Timothy regarding how to do this? With whom can you share this hope? MEDITATE on First Peter 3:15.

#### Wednesday

READ Acts 26:1-32; Colossians 4:2-6; First Corinthians 11:1. DISCUSS Notice Paul's pattern of asking for them to *pray* for him and then encouraging them to *do* what he is doing. How does this follow Jesus' example? How are you doing likewise? MEDITATE on First Peter 3:13-17. PRAY "Lord, embolden us to testify to Your mercy wherever You send us."

#### **Thursday**

READ Acts 26:9-29; First Corinthians 15:1-6; Joshua 1:6-9. DISCUSS What is the gospel message? How does Paul proclaim it? How are we to be strong and courageous? How are you most tempted by fear? MEDITATE on First Peter 3:13-17. PRAY "Jesus, help us to trust You in life and death with courage."

### Friday

READ Acts 26:9-29; First Peter 1:1-9; 3:13-17; Colossians 4:2-6; First Corinthians 15:1-6; Joshua 1:6-9. DISCUSS What have you been learning from these passages this week? REPENT of ways that you refuse to testify to Christ. MEDITATE on First Peter 3:13-17. PRAY for FCCW.

#### Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. READ **Acts 27:1-28:31**. Invite others to join you for either the *in-person or live-stream service* tomorrow. Ask Jesus to empower us with His life.

# First Peter 3:13-17

"Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil."