

Chapter 29

Paul's Mission

Ice Breaker Question –

What is one way you, your family, or your church family is seeking to fulfill God's mission to bring the love and message of Jesus to your community and the world?

1. One message that Paul brought as he proclaimed the gospel is that heaven is our true home and, in Christ, our resurrection is sure. How does a daily awareness that heaven awaits all those who have faith in Jesus bring hope, encouragement, and confidence to live for God today?
2. What differences do you find in Paul's message to the Jews in the synagogue (The Story p. 408-409) as compared to his message to the Gentiles (The Story p. 411,413) Discuss applications we might make today for reaching different people groups with the same gospel?
3. What makes the Church in Thessalonica "*a model to all believers*" (The Story p. 416-417) and what application can we make for our church if we want to be known as a model church?
4. As Paul wrote to the church in Rome (Romans 1:16-17; Romans 3-6; The Story p. 432-434) If a close friend or family member came to you and said, "I have watched your life and listened to your words and I want what you have. What must I believe and do to be saved?" what would you share with them?
5. Paul and his companions not only faced spiritual attack but also resistance from the religious and business communities (Acts 19:8-10, 23-41; The Story pg. 421-423). How did they face both while they ministered in Ephesus? What are some ways we might face the same sort of resistance as we follow Jesus today?
6. The church is a body, and every member is a specific part with a specific function (1 Corinthians 12; The Story p. 426-427). What is one spiritual gift God has given you and how are you developing it and using it for his glory?
7. Which of 'the fruit of the Spirit' that Paul listed (Galatians 5:22-23;The Story p. 431) do you desire to see grow in your life?
8. One of the great blessings of receiving Jesus is that we become children of God (Romans 8:14-17; The Story p.435). What does it mean to say, "I am a child of God?" How does your relationship with God grow and change when you learn to see yourself in the way?