

Bible Study for the Week of 2/17/2013 through 2/23/2013.

Warm-Up Question:

Who was a strict disciplinarian over you in years gone by? Describe him/her...

Main Point: The Lord is always in control, we take refuge in His hands.

Scripture: Acts 25:1-12

Observation and Interpretation Questions:

Read v 1-5

1. We learned last week (Acts 24:27) that Paul had been in prison for over two years. Why do you think the Jews were still going after Paul even though he was locked up? In what way(s) was Paul a threat?
2. Why did they want Festus to transfer Paul to Jerusalem?
3. We notice in v 3 that they requested a "favor" (not justice). Why do you think they were so intent on killing Paul?
4. What do you think were Festus's intentions when he invited the leaders to go to Caesarea with him?
5. In those days, the Jewish religion sometimes killed those of different faiths. Where is this kind of faith-based discrimination and even killing happening today?
6. What times in history have people used CHRISTIANITY as the reason to kill those of different faiths?

Read v 6-8

7. Why do you think Festus spent several days with them before going to Caesarea?
8. Why couldn't they prove the charges against Paul?
9. Why do you think he was not released when the charges could not be proven?

Read v 9-12

10. Why would Festus want to do the Jewish leaders a favor?
11. Why do you think Paul asked to stand trial before a Roman court?
12. Read Romans 8:31-34. Who can bring charges against those whom God has chosen? What has Christ Jesus done for us?

Application Questions:

1. If someone "accused" you of being a Christian, what evidence would there be to convict you?
2. In what ways do you see the Lord's mighty hand at work in your life today?
3. What can you do this week to take a stand for Christ, and speak boldly as Paul did?