



## Leader's Guide

Week of October 1

### The Big Idea

Paul is put “through the fire” of major accusations, but he always holds fast to his convictions while trying to live blamelessly.

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### Getting Started

1. Have you ever been falsely accused of something? How did you handle it?
  2. What places or communities do you have some influence in?
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### Digging In

1. **Read Acts 21:15-26.** Paul is falsely accused of teaching people to forsake Moses. What is his response to this accusation? What does that show about how Paul responds to people?  
**\*Leader's Note:** Paul purifies himself (even though he didn't have to) so that the Jews wouldn't have any reason to think him offensive. Here and elsewhere, Paul always tries to act in ways that are above reproach.
2. **Read Acts 21:27-36.** What emotions would you feel if you were in Paul's position? What thoughts would you have? Try to relate what it would be like to be imprisoned for something you didn't do; how is your trust in God in that situation?
3. **Read Acts 21:37-22:21.** In light of Paul's speech here, what is the reason he is able to withstand all these false accusations, abandonment of his people, and imprisonment?  
**\*Leader's Note:** His radical conversion and belief in Jesus Christ gives him the strength and conviction he needs to withstand this.
4. **Read Acts 22:22-23:10.** What does this passage show us about God's timing and control over our lives?

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**\*Leader's Note:** God had orchestrated the social-political scenario to allow Paul to have massive influence among Jews and Gentiles without being killed. It was a unique (even miraculous) set of circumstances that allowed Paul to minister in the way he did.

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## Looking Around

1. Are you living your life with conviction? In what ways? What does that look like?
  2. Are you living your life above reproach? In what ways? What does that look like?
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## Pray

Pray that Paul will give you opportunities to share from your convictions in your areas of influence because of your life lived above reproach. OR pray that God would help you start living a life above reproach.