

342: July 28; Aug 4. Paul the Defender (New Testament Weeks 30-31)

July 28

Acts 16-21 (Home Study)

Highlights:

Aug 4

Acts 22-28 (Sunday School)

Sunday School:

Lesson

1. Defending your life (How can we learn from Paul? Are our actions defensible? How do we address misunderstandings?)
2. Meeting people where they are (From Athenians and “unknown God”, to the Jews, to the Romans, to the guards, to kings) (Also, note that Paul says Jesus spoke to him in Aramaic!) (This REALLY struck me this reading, how Paul translates himself to each audience. Resonates with me as a chaplain. Also, working in prison gives me more empathy for this story! Though think “house arrest” rather than prison).
3. Paul’s testimony ()
4. The blessed broken path (Paul could have sought to save his life, but it is clear that he didn’t. God told him he needed to testify in Rome, so he took the path that led him there. That path, though it led to Paul’s death, also gave him tremendous opportunity to preach the gospel.
5. Conclusion: Find out what God wants us to do with our lives. Follow that path with integrity. Make the most of it, with perspective and gratitude.

Reading Review: (Good resource

<https://imlisteningtogod.wordpress.com/2014/05/26/new-testament-outlines-esv-headings-matthew-revelation/>)

16-21

22-28

Parallels between Luke and Acts (so brilliant)

Box 9.4

Parallels between Luke's Gospel and the Book of Acts

Luke's Gospel	Acts
Preface to Theophilus (1:1-4)	Preface to Theophilus (1:1-5)
Spirit descends on Jesus as he prays (3:21-22)	Spirit comes to apostles as they pray (2:1-13)
Sermon declares prophecy fulfilled (4:16-27)	Sermon declares prophecy fulfilled (2:14-40)
Jesus heals a lame man (5:17-26)	Peter heals a lame man (3:1-10)
Religious leaders attack Jesus (5:29-6:11)	Religious leaders attack apostles (4:1-8:3)
Centurion invites Jesus to his house (7:1-10)	Centurion invites Peter to his house (10:1-23)
Jesus raises widow's son from death (7:11-17)	Peter raises widow from death (9:36-43)
Missionary journey to Gentiles (10:1-12)	Missionary journeys to Gentiles (13:1-19:20)
Jesus travels to Jerusalem (9:51-19:28)	Paul travels to Jerusalem (19:21-21:17)
Jesus is received favorably (19:37)	Paul is received favorably (21:17-20)
Jesus is devoted to the temple (19:45-48)	Paul is devoted to the temple (21:26)
Sadducees oppose Jesus, but scribes support him (20:27-39)	Sadducees oppose Paul, but Pharisees support him (23:6-9)
Jesus breaks bread and gives thanks (22:19)	Paul breaks bread and gives thanks (27:35)
Jesus is seized by an angry mob (22:54)	Paul is seized by an angry mob (21:30)
Jesus is slapped by high priest's aides (22:63-64)	Paul is slapped at high priest's command (23:2)
Jesus is tried four times and declared innocent three times (22:66-23:13)	Paul is tried four times and declared innocent three times (23:1-26:32)
Jesus is rejected by the Jews (23:18)	Paul is rejected by the Jews (21:36)
Jesus is regarded favorably by a centurion (23:47)	Paul is regarded favorably by a centurion (27:43)
Final confirmation that scriptures have been fulfilled (24:45-47)	Final confirmation that scriptures have been fulfilled (28:23-28)

<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/come-follow-me-read-along/id1458235174>

