

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

Scripture

Acts 24:1-9; 25:9-12; 26:27-32

Session Summary

The Jews brought false accusations before the Romans government against Paul and were seeking his execution. Paul's response demonstrated that his innocence was self-evident. Paul appealed to justice, since he'd done nothing deserving of death, and to Caesar, because Christ sent Him to Rome. When things aren't going as we'd hoped or planned, we may be tempted to take matters into our own hands. We may resort to doing wrong to get even or to get out of the situation. But we should persevere in doing right regardless of how "wrong" our situation may be. God is using it and will use us as we are faithful in that season.

When Agrippa asked if Paul was trying to persuade him to become a Christian, Paul replied by saying he wished for all of them to become Christians. Though he knew his purpose was to share Christ in Rome, Paul did not waste the opportunity to share Jesus right where he was. God calls us to share Jesus everywhere, with everyone, and in every season. We can miss opportunities when we are looking too far ahead. Remember that God's providence is found not only in the destination, but in the journey. Don't wait to live for Christ until you get where you are going in life (whatever that may look like for you); serve Him in each season. There are people in your life who God wants you to serve, love, and share the gospel with. Steward those opportunities in each season of life.

- Why is it important to appeal to an authority instead of taking matters into your own hands?
- How can we resist the temptation to retaliate when sinned against?
- How has God used bad situations to give you an opportunity to do good?
- How can we take advantage of the opportunities God has given us in each season rather than looking too far ahead?

As a family, pray each night that God would give you clarity on how to serve Him in this season. It may be stepping up to serve at church or adjusting your schedule so that you can have more time for what is most important. Each family member can serve God in whatever season he or she is in, but only by being intentional and focused.