

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: To win, build and send Department of Defense leaders to live for Jesus Christ

21-25 April 2003

ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

#15 – Paul's Speech

INTRODUCTION:

- You are contemplating your speech to assume your new command. Will you tell everyone that you are a Christian or let them figure it out by your actions?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION:

Note: In spite of many warnings from friends, Paul was obedient to the Holy Spirit by going to Jerusalem. When Jews from Asia recognized Paul in the temple he escaped a beating death only by being arrested. The Roman commander allowed Paul to speak to the crowd.

Read Acts 21:15 –26

- Of what is Paul accused?
- Why might people think that Paul was doing away with Jewish law? (Rom 8:2, 1 Cor 9:19, 20)
- What did Paul and the other elders decide to do to solve the problem?

Read Acts 21:37 – 22:29

- Given the volatility of the situation, why did Paul address the crowd?
- What event in Paul's life made the greatest change in his life direction and theology?
- What element in his defense is necessary for every Christian's testimony?
- What can we learn about Paul's methodology?
- Why does the crowd explode when he mentions "Gentiles"? (21)
- Paul backed up his talk with his walk. How consistent is your speech with your lifestyle?

APPLICATION:

- What are situations or issues in your office that may give you a platform for the Gospel? How will you do it?
- Paul shared his own story rather than preach a sermon. When have you found your story most helpful and effective to others?

I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.

Acts 20: 24

Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.

1 Cor 9:19

In everything you do, preach the gospel. If necessary use words.

St Francis of Assisi