

## Let's Talk: Day 253

Today's Reading: Acts 24 / Family Focus: verses 10-21

What if you had to defend yourself and God to someone? Discuss with your family what you would say to someone to convince them that God is true and the only way to get to heaven.

Questions:

1. Was there anyone who had witnessed Paul committing a crime? Were his accusers even present or was there any evidence presented?
2. As Paul defends himself, how does he sound? Scared? Proud? Smart? Confident? Respectful?
3. Have you ever had to give proof of what you believe to someone else? Was it hard to show them? What did you say?
4. What does Paul admit to? How does he use this time to share Jesus with the people again, instead of complaining about the unfairness of the situation? When you are in a difficult situation, is your focus on your own comfort and rights or are you asking how God might use you and your words to spread Jesus?

## Let's Talk: Day 254

Today's Reading: Acts 25 / Family Focus: verses 7-12

Paul has spent the last week of our reading being unjustly accused with no resolution in sight. There sometimes comes a point in a discussion that we realize the other person just wants to argue and we are not going to change their mind. When Paul got to that point, he recognized that it was time to move on.

Questions:

1. Who asked Paul if he was willing to go to Jerusalem? What did Paul say?
2. Who did Paul appeal to? Where does that man live?

3. Through an “unfair” legal system, Paul got the chance to minister in a land he had never been to before, Rome. Paul had shared Jesus to the people surrounding him and they rejected it repeatedly, so he decided to move on. Do you have any new opportunities to share Jesus?
4. Paul decided not to go back to Jerusalem. They didn’t want to listen to him, but liked to argue and had even tried to hurt him. Is there someone that you just argue with about spiritual things, and from whom you might need to take a break right now?

### **Let’s Talk: Day 255**

Today’s Reading: Acts 26 / Family Focus: verses 26-32

Call or talk to a friend or family member who has accepted Jesus into their heart. Find out what events led them to a relationship with Jesus. Then read about Paul’s testimony and how he became a believer.

Questions:

1. To whom did Paul tell his conversion story?
2. Did the king believe in Jesus after he told him his story?
3. Have you ever shared the gospel with another person? What did they think? Do you know if they accepted Jesus as their Savior?
4. What did Paul pray for? Have each family member brainstorm the name of one person they can pray for to accept Jesus. Pray for each person as a family.

### **Let’s Talk: Day 256**

Today’s Reading: Acts 27 / Family Focus: verses 14-26

Give each family member a piece of paper and crayons/markers/pen. Have each member privately write down or draw two things he/she would want to have if stranded on a deserted island. Then share your choices and why you chose them. Any duplicates?

Questions:

1. What did the ship’s crew throw out on the third day?
2. Imagine being on a boat in a storm, with no control, for several days and with no hope in sight. What would you be thinking?

3. Who encouraged Paul? Then who did Paul encourage?
4. What did Paul promise would happen to the people and the ship? Would you have believed him? This story reminds you that even in the darkest storms of life, you can trust God to take care of you.

### **Let's Talk: Day 257**

Today's Reading: Acts 28 / Family Focus: verses 1-6

Today's story is about Paul and his encounter with a viper. To learn more about vipers watch this YouTube video (caution: this video contains a snake eating small prey and may not be suitable for some children): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbpH9FrMAG4>.

Questions:

1. On what island was Paul stranded?
2. Where did Paul put the viper?
3. Have you ever had an experience when you saw God working?
4. What would you have thought had you seen the snake on Paul? What did the natives think?

### **Let's Talk: Day 258**

Today's Reading: Isaiah 26 / Family Focus: verse 19

Today's reading is from Day 254 referenced in Acts 24. Watch this YouTube video called "Rise Up," by Third Day: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsWaFBq8cm0>. Those who believe in Jesus will live forever with Him.

Questions:

1. This chapter of Isaiah encourages us that death is not the end. What does it promise?
2. How can we guarantee we will spend an eternity with Jesus?
3. It is amazing to think about how God will make the resurrection of our bodies happen. God is much bigger than our human mind can begin to understand. Take a minute to thank God for how powerful and beyond understanding He is.
4. What will the dead awake and do someday?

## **Let's Talk: Day 259**

Today's Reading: Today is the weekly OFF day

Mystery Question for the upcoming week: How old was Abram when he left Haran?

We have heard some amazing adventures of Paul the past two weeks. If you could transport yourself to one scene of his life, where would you go? Why?