



Preparing for a new season

The Book of Acts

21:1-16, 21:17-26, 21:27-36
21:37-22:21, 22:22-23:11

Week 10 – 17th June 2018

This Week

This week's questions:

- Paul was ready to die to spread the gospel. What is the biggest sacrifice that you have made for your faith?
- Do you know all of the “rules” for your faith?
- What rights do you have now that the members of the early church didn't have? And what could they do that you can't?
- What happens when public opinion is different from your belief? What would you do if the law prevents you from carrying out part of your faith?
- Can you identify a practical way you can express your faith that you can commit to, at least once a week, until John and Helen arrive?

Our readings this week are:

- 21:1-16
- 21:17-26
- 21:27-36
- 21:37-22:21
- 22:22-23:11

What to think about

Over the weeks that we are following the plan think about the following broad themes:

- Why are you a Christian?
- How is this different from the first Christians?
- How is your faith different to early Christians?
- Life in the early church was not easy – what have you done recently, as a Christian, that was uncomfortable in the modern world?
- Peter and Paul were persecuted, how are you persecuted?
- What did the early Church do better than we currently do?
- What example did they set we should be following?
- What was the most important thing that they did?
- What could you do to be more like the early Church?
- How can you help our Church to be more Christ like?

It may be useful to journal what you are thinking as you go through the plan and to look back during the weeks to see if your thoughts have changed

Our Prayer

You may wish to use this prayer before you start reading the passages

Lord Jesus,

We ask that through your word you reveal your vision of our New Season, that you bless us as we prepare for John and Helen's arrival,

We pray your blessing on John and Helen as they prepare for their New Season,

We pray that we can learn more of what it means to be a follower of Jesus from the early Church,

We ask that you help us accept the challenges that you set us, reveal where we need to make changes,

We pray that we recognize the promises that you have made, and help us to strengthen our faith in them,

Lord, we pray that today we take another step towards you,

Amen
