

WE SACRIFICE OUR PERSONAL FREEDOMS FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL

BIG TRUTH: WE SACRIFICE OUR PERSONAL FREEDOMS FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL

1 Corinthians 9:20-23; 10:28; 1 Thessalonians 1:5

BIBLE VERSE: ACTS 21:23-24

"Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law."

BIG IDEAS

- We have an obligation to live for peace and mutual upbuilding.
- We have an obligation to live for our neighbors' good.
- We have an obligation to live in unity.

BIBLE PASSAGE: ACTS 21:17-26; ROMANS 14:1-15:7

KNEEL: LIVING ON MISSION

The Kneel Year is an exploration of what it means to worship God with our all (Luke 10:26-28) and to use our influence to lead others to do the same. We know that as we pursue a life of worship, we will pursue a life of both wisdom and mission. Throughout this year we will study and pursue the wisdom of God through the book of Proverbs and the mission of God through the book of Acts, and we will learn how both of these things must inform and shape our influence as Jesus followers!

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know...

- The gospel has the power to turn the world upside down.
- They are empowered and chosen to be a gospel witness in the world.
- Our salvation has come by grace alone.



Every student should feel...

- Comfort that the Lord is with them wherever they go.
- Hope in the God of salvation.
- Responsible to use their influence to live for Jesus alone.



Every student should strive to...

- Read, study, and meditate on the entire book of Acts.
- Memorize the Bible verse each week.
- Pray consistently for boldness to make Jesus known.



Every student should want...

- To pursue faithfulness in living on mission.
- To share the gospel with people in their lives who do not know Jesus.
- To sacrifice their personal freedoms for the sake of the gospel

STUDENT WORKOUT:

This week we will consider what it means to pursue unity in the body of Christ. We will pray for a heart that desires to sacrifice our personal freedoms for the Gospel. We will practice putting others' needs above our own.

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Read Acts 21:17-26 this week and make notes in your journal. Answer the questions below in your journal as well:

- When Paul went into the elders in Jerusalem, what did he share with them? What was their response to the news he shared with them? What does their response reveal about their hearts and pursuit of peace?
- What rumors were spreading about Paul? Why were these rumors a problem? How did the elders suggest Paul handle the rumors?
- How did Paul's response to the elders' suggestion reveal his desire for unity and peace within the Jerusalem church?
- What connection to Paul's actions in Acts 21:17-24 can be made to his letter to the Roman believers in Romans 14:1-15:7? How are his instructions in Romans 14:1-15:7 reflective of his own willingness to not cause a weaker brother stumble?

Read and meditate on Acts 21:17-26 this week. Use the questions below to guide your meditation:

- Ponder what it looks like for you to sacrifice your personal freedoms for others. Do you willingly give up your desires for others?
- Consider how you can put your neighbors' needs above your own.
- Ponder how you can pursue unity in the church. Are there attitudes or behaviors that you need to change to pursue unity?



Pray with your parents this week.

- Ask God to help you seek unity and pursue peace.
- Pray with your small group leader this week. Ask God to show you the behaviors and attitudes you struggle with that do not promote peace. Repent of them and commit to pursue peace.



Memorize Acts 21:23-24 this week.

- Ask your friend or parents to help you memorize them.
- Define the word unity in your journal. Use a concordance to look up verses that discuss unity and pursuing peace. Write several of these down in your journal and discuss what they mean for believers with your parents. Reflect upon your own life and if you pursue peace and the unity of the church.
- Meet with your small group leader and discuss some needs you can help meet within your church. Choose things that require you to give up your time and resources.