

LIFE LINKS

Growing Together



(Remember the point is not to get through all the questions, but to facilitate connection between each other and God's word.)

:Life:

Easter Plans? (Next week is Palm Sunday followed by Easter. Curriculum will take a break.)

:Bible:

Paul is called upon again to give a defense. This is the final defense by Paul in the book of Acts. This time his audience is King Agrippa, Bernice, and Festus along with their entourage.

Paul shares his testimony. He talks about his life as a strict Pharisee all the while acknowledging that belief in Jesus is not in opposition to the law and the prophets. He tells of his persecution of the church and his conversion while on the way to Damascus. Paul is telling tell them who he was before his encounter of Jesus and who he is now.

Festus interrupts Paul to say that he is insane.

Agrippa mocks the idea that he could be converted in such a short time.

Paul answers both powerful men with and invitation to believe in Jesus

Agrippa represents someone who has been assimilated into Roman society and sees religious belief as a means to power. Have you ever met or seem someone that see Christianity in that way?

Paul is given many opportunities to compromise and be released. Why do you think he refuses to compromise? Would you make the same decision if you were in his situation?

We are pretty good at rationalizing compromise in our life. Was there a time in your life when you chose compromise? What were the results of that situation?

Read Scripture:

2 Corinthians 6:3-10

[3] We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, [4] but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, [5] beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; [6] by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; [7] by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; [8] through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; [9] as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; [10] as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything. (ESV)

What things in our life do we put in priority over Jesus and our allegiance to him?

We may not face the same hardships that Paul experiences, our life may even be relatively comfortable. How can we see the gospel as the best thing in our life?

:Application:

I have heard some good reports of people's interactions with their one. Try having a conversation about Easter with your one over the next few weeks.

:Prayer Requests:

