

## MINUS THE CHAINS | Week of 8/28

Acts 25:13-26:32



**Last week summary:** *Paul stood trial in Caesarea before Governor Felix, with Ananias the high priest and his lawyer, Tertullus, presenting the case against Paul. Paul was accused of being a troublemaker, ringleader, and of desecrating the temple. Paul had already waited two years in jail before this trial and his appeal to Caesar. We learned: (1) God’s timing is often different from ours; (2) To please God rather than men; (3) Submitting to God is a matter of obedience rather than convenience.*

You may want to read the passage before starting these questions.

1. What would you say is the biggest “high-profile” court case in modern history?
2. What benefits were there for King Agrippa to come to Caesarea? How might Agrippa be in a position to help Festus?
3. Who in the story do you most relate with? (Paul, Festus, Agrippa, Bernice, Roman leaders, other observers)
4. What are the benefits of a personal testimony?
5. How does centering your testimony around (1) life before Christ, (2) how you came to know Christ, and (3) life after knowing Christ help you shape your own personal testimony?

6. Do people today think Christians are crazy? How do you handle situations where your faith is questioned or criticized?
7. What part should prayer play in our sharing the Gospel with others? What types of things should we pray for?
8. If you were on trial in front of important people, would you be so bold as Paul?
9. What spiritual credibility do you have that will attract people to the Gospel?
10. Does it damage your reputation or credibility to talk about bad things you did in your past, before Christ, as it contributes to your story? Can God use a rocky or troubled history to bring Him glory? How?
11. Each time Paul has spoken he's done so in a way that relates to his audience. When the opportunity arises, have you prepared your testimony to share? How can you incorporate flexibility to match your audience?
12. What is the importance of ending your testimony with a question?
13. What steps might you take this week to enhance your reputation, credibility, and attitude?
14. Who do you need to share your testimony with this week?