

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Paul Before Festus & Agrippa

WHAT YOU NEED

- Paul's Life Story Sheet, printed
- Scissors

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LET'S READ THE BIBLE

2

Have someone in your family read the following passage:

- Acts 26:4-21

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Governor Felix was sent to Rome and Festus took over. He went to visit Jerusalem where some of the unbelieving Jews talked to him. Since Festus was a new governor, the Jewish leaders tried again to have Paul taken back to Jerusalem, but they actually wanted to kill Paul.

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When Festus returned to Caesarea, he asked Paul if he would go to Jerusalem to be tried. Paul said that he hasn't done anything wrong and then he asked to have his case tried before Caesar. Festus agreed to send Paul to Rome to be tried in Caesar's court.

As Festus wondered what kind of report to send to Caesar, King Agrippa and Bernice visited. They stayed with Festus for many days and Festus told them about Paul. King Agrippa wanted to talk to Paul.

The next day, Paul had another hearing before Festus, Agrippa and Bernice.

Paul told everyone present his life story (his testimony). King Agrippa responded by saying, "In such a short time do you think you can talk me into being a Christian?" Paul said that he wished that everyone would believe in Jesus like he did.

When King Agrippa stood up, that meant that he didn't want to hear anymore. The guards took Paul back to prison, while Agrippa, Bernice and Festus talked about Paul. They knew Paul didn't do anything wrong, but since he appealed to Caesar, they decided Paul had to go to Rome for a trial.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

- Who was Governor Festus discussing Paul's case with?
- Did the Jewish leaders have any real accusations against Paul?
- After Paul told his life story/testimony, how did Festus react?
- What did King Agrippa say to Paul?
- What did Agrippa, Bernice and Festus decide to do with Paul?

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NOW WHAT?

- Why do you think our life stories/testimonies are so important when telling others about Jesus? (*It is a way for other people to relate to us or to feel like they are somehow like us and that they too can choose to follow Jesus*)
- Are we responsible for how other people react to us telling them our testimony? (*No, that is between them and God. Our responsibility is to keep telling others about Jesus, no matter what*)

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LET'S HAVE SOME FUN

- Cut the "Paul's Life Story Sheet" into blocks along the lines
- Follow the instructions on the sheet to complete the activity
- After the activity follow the rest of the instructions on the sheet to practice your testimonies

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