



HomeGroup **LEADER** Discussion Questions  
Week 11: Nov 21-27

**NOTE: THERE WILL NOT BE QUESTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S SERMON.**

**CHOOSE 2-3 QUESTIONS FROM BELOW FOR YOUR DISCUSSION.**

"Acts ends with a comma, not a period." Acts marks only the beginning of the Church, but it has given us a clear picture of its supernatural foundation. Across the centuries, the Church has adapted and adjusted to suit the day, but it has always been fueled by God's Spirit working through God's people to accomplish God's purposes. Now, this is our day!

**MAIN TEXT:** Various—Acts 28; Romans 11; 2 Timothy 2:8-10

**CONNECT**

1. What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

Chances are good that many people's plans have been impacted by the rise in COVID cases...including yours! We encourage you to pay special attention to people in your group who may be isolated and alone over Thanksgiving.

2. What has your attention these days? What do you find yourself thinking about most?

Thomas begins and ends the sermon with this question of what's capturing our attention. It should be an easy transition from the sermon to this question.

**LEARN**

3. Read Acts 28:17-30 about Paul's house arrest in Rome. What do you think had Paul's attention in those days? What other things could his attention have been on instead?

Verses 23 and 28-30 are key verses for this question. (If you're reading from the ESV, you'll see a footnote for v. 29. It's not in the main text because it is not included in the best ancient copies of Romans.)

4. Pastor Thomas looked at Romans 11 to describe how Gentiles have been "grafted in" as God's people. How does this chapter reveal that God has a plan for all of history and is in control?

There's potential to get into the "theological weeds" with this topic, but we encourage you to avoid going too far into the details if possible. This question is attempting to

emphasize how God is at work in Israel's rejection of the gospel, the Gentiles' acceptance of it, and a future turning of Israel to embrace Jesus. The main point is that salvation history is unfolding according to God's plan for all of His people.

5. Read 2 Timothy 2:8-10. Paul contrasts his own circumstances (being in chains) with the word of God (unbound!). How do you think that perspective helped him endure while he was imprisoned?

Paul's greatest value was to see others "obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory" (v. 10). We shouldn't think that he was happy about his circumstances, but they simply weren't his biggest concern. His circumstances were secondary.

### APPLY

6. We can and do give attention to a lot of things, but what do you think our greatest attention should be given to these days? How can we help each other to give our attention to it?

You may think you're sounding like a broken record, but being in an intentional, Bible-focused community with other Christ-followers is essential (what we call "Biblical Communities on Mission"). These are the places where we spur each other on in our faith, helping us keep our attention on the gospel.

7. Pastor Thomas noted how Acts began (Acts 2:46) and ends (Acts 28:23) in homes. How does hospitality factor in to the life of the Church? What do you think that looks like for us at Calvary in this day of COVID and social distancing? Can we still be hospitable?

If you're using this guide then there's a good chance you've been opening your home or apartment this past fall for a HomeGroup! Encourage your group to think through how they could also practice hospitality. For example, maybe they could invite a neighbor or coworker over to their house to enjoy a cup of coffee on the deck or patio. It could be a way to build a relationship with someone. There are many other potential examples.

8. Paul was confident that God was still at work even while Paul's mobility was severely restricted (2 Tim 2:8-10). In what ways have you seen that God is still at work in these days?

If all you get is blank stares with this question, refer back to what Thomas shared in the sermon about people coming to faith over email and then getting baptized. People of other faith backgrounds have been coming to Christ even in these days.

9. Pastor Thomas said, "Today is our day!" What have you learned from this series in Acts that you think is most significant for us as we live in "Acts 29"?

This question invites everyone to think back on the entire series in Acts and consider what has been most significant. It may be helpful to skim back through the chapters of Acts ahead of time so you can give a few examples of some of the territory we've covered in the past weeks.