

HOME GROUPS

Discussion Questions for *Acts 21 "Being Conformed to the Image of Jesus"*
Week of March 28th - April 3rd, 2010

Warm Up: How was Easter typically celebrated in your home growing up?

“Untested faith (in Jesus) may be true faith, but it is sure to be small faith, and it is likely to remain little as long as it is without trials. Faith (in Jesus) never prospers so well as when all things are against her: Tempests are her trainers, and bolts of lightning are her illuminators.” - *Our Daily Bread*
www.rbc.org

- We learn from **Acts 21** that living a life in Jesus Christ requires us to abandon ourselves to the will of God (v.13; also **Acts 20:24**). What do you think is required to live life with such a surrendered attitude?
- It's easy to question God and ask “Why, Lord?” in times of struggle. The better question is often times, “What, Lord? *What* are you seeking to teach or show me in this season?” Have you found this to be true? Why or why not?
- It would seem that the three warnings of suffering (**20:23, 21:4, 21:11**) that Paul received were not meant to *stop him* from continuing, but rather to *prepare him* for the suffering he would encounter.
 - What is dangerous about believing that God wants to deliver us from *all* pain and hardship?
 - Is it right to pray for deliverance from challenges? What is the balance between this and accepting God's will? Give some examples.
- Charles Stanley said that “God is after transformed lives, not merely reformed ones.” What does he mean? How is God currently *transforming your life*? Break up into smaller groups if necessary and share openly about this. Where do you sense the greatest need to be *conformed to the image of Jesus Christ* in your life, marriage, parenting, or occupation right now?

Wrap Up: Pray for the image of Jesus to be formed in each of you as you close. Believe God in the midst of the storms of your life, and actively exercise your faith *tonight* in trusting in God's transforming power for you personally.