September 17, 2023 MACC Digging Deeper Acts 25:13-22 Elder Rick Noonan

Day 1

Pray to God, ask for His help, as you confess your sins and give thanksgiving. Consider using a journal to write down the ideas and questions God brings to your mind as you study. Read Acts 25:13-22. King Herod Agrippa II was only 17 when his father died and he became a territorial ruler. He was accompanied by Roman procurators during his first years of rule. He was a young man when these events occurred in Acts 25. In verses 14 to 16, what does Festus say to Agrippa is important for a person who stands accused?

Day2

Pray to God about what he wants you to learn as you study in His word digging deeper into the verses from Sunday's message. Again, read Acts 25:13-22. In verses 17 through 19, what does Festus say happened next for Paul when being confronted by the Jewish leaders?

Day3

Pray to God as you learn from His word today. Does He bring to mind someone you need to reconnect with? Send them a text, or give them a call. Read Acts 25:13-22. In verse 20, Festus seems to want to send Paul back to Jerusalem, to the Jewish leaders. Why do you think Festus initially suggested that course of action? Read Mark 15:15 about what another Roman leader did to pacify Jewish leaders to avoid controversy.

Day 4

Find a quiet place to settle your body, mind, and spirit. Pray and write down in your journal what the Holy Spirit brings to your heart and mind. Read Acts 25:13-22. Agrippa and Festus are ungodly Roman leaders, yet we read in verse 21 that they are following the laws of truth, fairness, and justice as they decide what to do about Paul. How often in our modern times do we find Christians unwilling to follow the law to pursue truth and justice with kindness, patience, and charity? Check out Galatians 5:16-25 and Matthew 5:1-12 for how we are to act as Jesus' followers towards both unbelievers and believers. As a community, how are we doing on these topics? How are you sometimes like Agrippa & Festus? How are you sometimes like the Jewish leaders?

Day 5

Pray for others in your life. Ask God how is He nudging you to come alongside them with kindness, compassion, and joy. Read Acts 25:13-22. In verse 22 we read that the king was looking forward to meeting Paul. Check out Luke 9 v.7-9 and learn about where this excitement comes from.