

S.G. Study Guide: *To the End of the Earth.* Acts 28:11-31

1. The church community provides comfort and courage. (Acts 28:11-16)

- Acts 2:10- It appears that the gospel made it to Rome before Paul because of Peter's preaching at Pentecost. What does this teach about appreciation our church and the "BIG C church"? (i.e. the worldwide church)
- How does this passage also remind us about the unsung heroes of the faith?
- How did the church provide Paul comfort and courage? How does this reaffirm our need for the church?

2. Boldly standing in the hope of Israel. (Acts 28:17-24)

- How did Paul's ministry towards the Jews become defensive not offensive? How can we proclaim the truth as an announcement, not an argument?
- We are called to share the gospel. If we are not making disciples, we must ask if we are disciples? How can we stand firm in the gospel and lovingly/boldly share it?
- Paul taught from "morning till evening." What does this tell us about the crowd listening? Can we relate?
- What does it mean that Paul expounded? What does it mean that he "testified to the Kingdom of God"?
- Paul used the Mosaic Law and Prophets to defend Jesus as the Christ/Messiah. What does this teach us about the need for understanding and communicating the whole story of God?

3. Rejection and Reception. (Acts 28:25-31)

- How does Luke record Jews rejecting the gospel? While not all disbelieved, clearly the majority did. This was a *rejection*, who does the Holy Spirit say will *receive* the gospel? How is this the climax of Acts?
- Romans 11:15-24. How does Paul explain the balance of rejection and reception in God's salvation plan?
- Romans 11:28-31 challenges the church to several attitudes and actions, what are they?