# Week 25: Acts 21:1-16

# Hardship Doesn't Mean God Said No

#### TODAY'S VERSES:

#### Acts 21:1-16

James 1:2-4 Exodus 12:2-3 Exodus 14:30 Exodus 15:2 Matthew 26 & 28 Acts 2:1 Acts 9:15-16 Galatians 1:10



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## Week 25: Acts 21:1-16 Hardship Doesn't Mean God Said No

# **BIG IDEA:**

We often view times of hardship as not being God's will or plan for us, but that isn't the case. The greatest example we have is Jesus' hardship (His life and death) which brings about salvation. Paul, likewise, knows that his trust in God is not in vain, though he suffered for the name of Jesus.

# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

How do you typically respond to hardship in your life? What has been one of the hardest circumstances you've experienced? What has been the result of those hardships?

Have you ever seen hardship in your life result in glorifying God? When people around you are in the midst of hardships, what is your typical response?

What advice do others often give you in times of hardship?

Have you ever given advice that turned out to be wrong, or at least short sighted, in what God intended to do?

How can you get moments of clarity before emotions hit during trials? Can clarity lead to staying true to where God led you towards? How well do you feel you know God's will?

Have you ever tried making God's will conform to your preconceptions? What is usually the driving factor behind that?

What happens when your focus is more on yourself than the Gospel? How can you know what brings God glory and pleasure? Why is it so important to know and learn what brings God glory and pleasure?

What hardship might God be calling you to face and not run away from? How can you pray for that circumstance differently than you normally would?