



STUDY GUIDE

VOYAGE 08.14.2016

[set up]

Work as a LifeGroup and make a list of people or situations that are typically intimidating when it comes to sharing your faith. Leave room after each one to write more next to it later. If you are by yourself, use a notepad. If you are in a LifeGroup use a large sheet of paper or a giant sticky note.

[digging deeper]

In Acts 24-26 we see the Apostle Paul arrested and taken to Caesarea where he is imprisoned awaiting a voyage to Rome. During this experience, he is publicly and privately tried before Jewish leaders, Roman soldiers, governors, and a king. Each of these are very intimidating situations, but we see Paul faithful to share his story and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Read Acts 26 and respond to the following observations:

- Where do we see opportunities for Paul to feel intimidated?
- Where do we see Paul demonstrate boldness?
- How does Paul use both the truths of the Gospel along with his own story as he shares?
- Although we did not see any conversions to Christ in this chapter, what are some encouraging things that we do see?
- How does what we see in Acts 26 demonstrate a great example of living out the following verses?
 - Matt. 10:16-20
 - 1 Peter 2:12
 - 1 Peter 3:14-18
- How does this study encourage you to share your faith despite feelings of intimidation?

- Revisit the list of intimidating people and situations that you made in the beginning. Next to each one, brainstorm a prayer, approach, or strategy that can be used to share your faith in each one.

[living it out]

Remember: We share God's superior message in spite of our inferior feelings.

Challenge: I will share my faith story this week with this intimidating person or situation:

Preparation resources:

- Review and interact with CVC's "How to write/share your story" link: <http://www.cvconline.org/resources/how-to-write-your-story/>
- Watch a story or two from CVC's "Stories of new life" link as samples: <http://www.cvconline.org/stories-of-new-life/>
- Review the "Three circles conversation guide" to learn/brush up on sharing the Gospel. <http://www.cvconline.org/resources/3-circles/>
- One effective way to share the three circles is to personalize it...
 - What did your life look like in its brokenness?
 - When and where did you hear the Gospel and respond?
 - How has God helped you live restored and in pursuit of His design?
 - A good transition is to ask the person you are sharing with, where they are at in the circles and what would help them move to the next part, especially to repent and believe?

Prayer time:

- We don't dare talk to the people about God until we talk to God about the people.
- Ways to pray, especially for each other:
 - That God will fill you with His Spirit and give you courage, boldness, and wisdom to share.
 - That God will prepare (name)'s heart for your conversation.
 - That God will give you discernment in knowing when to share, what to share, what to listen for.