



1. Refer to Acts 24:26-27. How much time has passed since Paul has been arrested? Why was Paul kept in prison?

2. What were the motivations of the Jews (v3), Festus (v9, v27), Agrippa and Bernice (v22-23) towards Paul and his case? Were they for him, indifferent, or against him?



3. In this passage, Paul waits in prison as time ticks by. There is no sign that circumstances will change. Can you identify with Paul's experience of waiting? What are some things that you are waiting to be resolved or freed from? What are some prayers you are waiting for answers to?



4. Paul will present his testimony and the gospel before Agrippa and Bernice in the next chapter. Consider v1-5, v11-12, v26. Even in the midst of uneventful circumstances, how do we see God keeping His promise in 23:11?



5. Paul made his appeal to Caesar instead of allowing his Jewish accusers to take him back to Jerusalem so that he might go to Rome. What does this reveal about Paul's attitude as he was waiting on God to fulfil His promise?

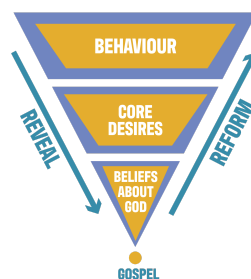


6. Consider the things we are waiting for: what do we tend to do in a season of waiting, where nothing seems to be changing?



7. Read Philippians 1:6 and refer to the tool below. Paul was able to trust in Jesus' promise in 23:11 (behaviour) and wait with active faith because he had experienced how the gospel had transformed his life. Jesus' death and resurrection is proof of God's steadfast love towards Paul and his commitment to preserve and protect him to the very end (belief about God).

How might fixing our eyes on the gospel help us to wait with active faith? What does waiting well look like for us this season?





**8a.** Meditate on 2 Cor 4:16-18 and consider the circumstances that we are facing. How might this encourage you today?

**8b.** Share with one another the circumstances that we are facing, and consider how we can counsel one another what it means to wait faithfully according to the gospel, navigating these circumstances by trusting in Jesus. Then, uphold one another in prayer and ask the Spirit to grant us the faith needed to see Jesus amidst our challenging and seemingly unchanging circumstances.