

# LIFE GROUPS

**LEADER PAGE | Acts | WEEK 25 of 30 | Sermon date:** June 19, 2022

**Discipleship Phrase:** God's church, God's way.

**Big Idea for Series:** God's church is built on His principles.

**Abiding** *(grow as a disciple yourself)*

In the apostle Peter's explanation of the purpose behind the death of Jesus, he explains that "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness" (1 Pet. 2:24). In other words, Jesus died so all who believe in him would experience a transformation in their everyday lives: a putting to death of sinful ways and a coming to life in righteous ways. Take some time this week to meditate on this picture of a follower of Jesus. How can you begin to exchange your ways for His ways?

**Leading** *(facilitate your group effectively)*

In this week's sermon we hear how Paul shares his story even after being beaten and thrown out of the temple. In Acts 22:3-21 we see that Paul provides a great example of being a disciple. In these verses we read Paul's story which provides a great example of how we can share our testimony. Using the example in Question 2, ask a few members to share their testimony in the format given. Prepare each group member to listen with curiosity and ask follow up questions for clarity. Encourage those that share to keep it at 8 minutes so that the group can hear from others. Be mindful that not everyone will be able to share this evening but encourage everyone to be present. As you lead in the following weeks, see if you can provide time for other members to share their testimony before you dive into group discussion. As you wrap up group meeting, Question 3 is meant to challenge each of us to move into places where God is working. How can you challenge yourself to desire more of what God wants to do in you and through you?

**Shepherding** *(know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)*

Acknowledging the importance of testimony is going to play a big part of your week. Being able to share who you were before knowing Jesus, how you came to know Him, how walking with Him changed you and why using your life to bring others into relationship with Him changes everything. As you check in with your people, remind them that their story matters; and is not finished. God has a plan and a purpose for each of you, to walk in-step with Jesus is how we don't miss it.

**Church Announcements** *(specific to group leaders)*

Don't forget! Every Thursday at 6 PM is an ALL-church prayer meeting in meeting room B. Come and join fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to seek God's face on behalf of Southeast Christian Church.

**REMEMBER:**

**"Every group deserves a great leader."**

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**Welcome/Introductions & Opening Prayer** (5 minutes)

**Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows** (choose what fits best-5 minutes)

**Weekly Vision** (Announcements, The “Why”, Goal, Outreach, Guidelines, & Branching- 5 minutes)

*Guidelines: Confidentiality, Avoid Crosstalk, Avoid fixing & Rescuing, Use “I” Statements, Contribute over Consume, Be Mindful of Self (allow all to share & use humor responsibly).*

**Ask a Hook Question** (a thought-provoking question- 5 minutes)

What’s the definition of a disciple?

**Recap the Message** (ask a couple people to share- 5 minutes)

**Scripture References** (Read scriptures directly from the Bible)

Acts 22:3-21(ESV)

**Implications** (takeaways from the message)

1. There are things that God planned in advance for you to do.
2. If you don’t do them someone else will.
3. If someone else does them, they won’t be done as well as you would do them, because he created you to do those things.
4. If someone else does them, you will miss out on the greatest joy you can know in this life: Being used by God!

**Discussion Questions** (going beyond the surface-55 minutes)

1. Read Acts 22:3-21. What good things does Paul share? Does he conceal the bad things? Why not?
2. Paul’s story is summarized with the following: Paul’s life before Jesus, Paul being confronted by Jesus, Paul becoming a follower of Jesus and Paul joining the mission of Jesus. Now, share your testimony in a similar fashion to Paul.
3. God’s redemptive story is ongoing. As you reflect on your journey, rest in knowing this journey is a lifelong process of sanctification.

**Closing Prayer** (ask openly for a volunteer-10 minutes)