

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

BIRTH OF A NATION

THE STORY OF ACTS: TAG, YOU'RE IT.

JESUS OVER EVERYTHING

WORKING TOWARDS EACH OTHER



JESUS OVER EVERYTHING

BIG IDEA

THE UNITY OF THE EVER EXPANDING CHURCH IS STRENGTHENED ONCE WE SEE JESUS AS LORD OVER TYPE AND STYLE.

THE STORY: ACTS 21:15-26 [ESV]

15 After these days we got ready and went up to Jerusalem. **16** And some of the disciples from Caesarea went with us, bringing us to the house of Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we should lodge. **17** When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly. **18** On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. **19** After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. **20** And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law, **21** and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs.

22 What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. **23** Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; **24** take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law. **25** But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality." **26** Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them.

ADDITIONAL PASSAGES

1 CORINTHIANS 9:19-23

19 For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. **20** To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. **21** To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. **22** To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. **23** I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

MATTHEW 17:24-27

24 When they came to Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma tax went up to Peter and said, "Does your teacher not pay the tax?" **25** He said, "Yes." And when he came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do kings of the earth take toll or tax? From their sons or from others?" **26** And when he said, "From others," Jesus said to him, "Then the sons are free. **27** However, not to give offense to them, go to the sea and cast a hook and take the first fish that comes up, and when you open its mouth you will find a shekel. Take that and give it to them for me and for yourself."

QUESTIONS



OBSERVE

- Who was this written to?
- What is happening in the passage?
- When and where did this take place?
- Why did the author write this?

INTERPRET

- What would the original hearers have thought?
- How does this fit in with the great story of the bible?
- Are there other parts of scripture that help you understand this passage?

APPLY

- What does this tell you about who God is?
- What does this tell you about your sin and the need for a Savior?
- How might this affect your relationships with believers that are different?
- How might these truths impact your perspective towards unbelievers?

**PRESERVING
THE BOND
OF PEACE IS
GOING
TO COST US.**

**IF YOU'RE NOT
WILLING TO PAY THE
PRICE FOR UNITY, YOU
MIGHT BE RUNNING
UP THE TAB.**