

**CP— 10/6/24**

**Acts 28:30–31 – The End of the Beginning**

**1. Paul's ministry ends how it began: gospel advancement at personal sacrifice.**

- He lost his eyesight at conversion (Acts 9:9)
- Christ's promise that Paul will suffer (9:15–16)
- Plot on his life at Damascus (9:23)
- Reviled by the Jews and driven out of Antioch in Pisidia (13:45, 50)
- Attempted stoning at Iconium (14:5)
- Stoned at Lystra (14:19–23)
- Beaten and jailed at Philippi (16:22–24)
- Mob attack at Thessalonica (17:5)
- Crowds at Berea (17:13)
- Accusations at Corinth (18:12–13)
- Riot at Ephesus (19:21–30)
- Holy Spirit testifies of future persecutions to Paul (20:22–23)
- Agabus's prophecy of future attack from the Jews; Paul's resolve (21:10–13)
- Jewish mob seizes Paul in the temple (21:27–31)
- Attempted flogging by Romans (22:24–25)
- Struck by Jewish council (23:1–2)
- Jewish plot to ambush and kill Paul (23:12–16)
- Held in Herod's praetorium (23:35)
- Held in prison at Caesarea for two years (24:27)
- Sails to Rome as a prisoner to appeal to Caesar (27:1)
- Storm and shipwreck (27:13–44)
- Bitten by snake (28:3–5)
- Rejected by many Jews (28:24–25)
- House arrest for two years (28:30); eventually martyred by beheading

**2. Acts ends how it began.**

- God's people, empowered by the Holy Spirit
- Go to the world
- With the gospel as Christ's witnesses
- Because Jesus is Lord of all

**3. Acts ends, but the acts continue! It's our time!**

**\*\*\*Application: Interview with Jacob Borgelt, missionary to South Sudan**

### **Small Group Discussion:**

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the Scripture and sermon Sunday? What stood out to you? What questions do you have?
2. Discuss the relationship in Paul's ministry of the advancement of the gospel to new places and personal sacrifice. What are some reasons why we should expect opposition and even suffering to advance the gospel?
3. What is the overall theme of Acts? (The arrows to represent that Jesus went up, Spirit came down, church went out). Discuss each part of the sentence that Luke gave in point two. (God's people, empowered by the Holy Spirit, go to the world with the gospel as Christ witnesses because Jesus is Lord of all.)
4. Discuss as a group your favorite stories/passages from Acts and what you learned.
5. Discuss the time that we as a church heard from Jacob Borgelt. What challenged you and encouraged you most from his testimony? Why should we hold missionaries in high esteem? Do you believe that you are also sent to the people around you? What truth principles from Jacob's missionary work can you implement into your life this week?