



Diving Deeper: A Gather Group Discussion Guide
or Personal Study Guide



The Unhindered Gospel

Introduction: The book of Acts ends with Paul arriving at Rome. He made it to the “ends of the earth” and preached the good news of the Kingdom and about Jesus Christ. Luke leaves the reader with the outlook of the unhindered gospel. We are told that Paul is able to freely proclaim the good news with all boldness and without hindrance. The apostles carried out the mission of Acts 1:8 to be his witnesses.

Text: Acts 28:17-31

Discussion:

1. Icebreaker: When have you ever accomplished a major task? What was it, how long did it take, and how did you feel afterwards?
2. The book of Acts takes us on a journey from Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. The apostles were faithful to the mission of Jesus. They took the gospel to Rome. How does the ending of Acts encourage you in the spreading of the gospel?
3. What did Paul teach on according to Acts 28:31?
4. What is the kingdom of God?
5. Why must we realize that the kingdom of God is a spiritual reality in the “now” and will culminate in a physical kingdom in the “not yet” future?
6. When Paul preached about the Lord Jesus, he explained to them that He was the promised Messiah who is the way to the kingdom. How would you tell someone about who Jesus is and what he accomplished? How does one enter the kingdom of God?
7. How does the kingdom of God reign in the hearts of believers? How can the kingdom grow in your life?
8. Read 2 Peter 3:10. Why is it important to realize that this earth will melt away?
9. A physical kingdom of God will never happen until Jesus returns. Our hope is in the future physical return of Christ and then he sets up his kingdom. This helps us fix our eyes on our eternal home—where we belong. This life is a short term mission project. If that is the case, then how are we to live? (2 Peter 3:11)
10. There is a debate in the evangelical world about the purpose of the gospel. Is it to preach salvation and address all the social issues of the day? Or is it rather to preach salvation and teach them about the kingdom of God?
11. How are we to continue to the mission of preaching the good news of the kingdom and of Jesus Christ?

Think About it:

The good news of the kingdom is that there is a King and he does have a kingdom. It exists in the now through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the life of believers. The physical kingdom will be realized with the return of Christ. The church is to preach the gospel of salvation from sins through Jesus. He is the entry to the kingdom. Only in Christ can we be forgiven of our sins. Only through Jesus can we gain the right to enter the kingdom of God. The world will change through one conversion at a time. Not institution, government, school, politician, etc. will fix the world's problems. The world will continue to have problems until Christ returns. The church has been empowered to lead people to a genuine relationship to the one true King!

Moving Forward:

How will you focus on allowing the kingdom of God to grow in your personal life? How will Jesus the king rule over you? How will you focus on the future hope of the kingdom this week? What will you do this week on your short term mission trip?