

HAVE YOU ENCOUNTERED JESUS? Acts 21:37-22:29

Big Idea: *God often uses our personal backgrounds to build bridges to share the gospel.*

1. Our _____ provides us unique _____ .

Acts 21:40-22:3 “When he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the stairs, motioned to the people with his hand; and when there was a great hush, he spoke to them in the Hebrew dialect, saying, ¹ ‘Brethren and fathers, hear my defense which I now offer to you.’ ² And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew dialect, they became even more quiet; and he said, ³ ‘I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated under Gamaliel, strictly according to the law of our fathers, being zealous for God just as you all are today.’”

Acts 17:26 “And He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation.”

2. Our _____ must center on _____ .

⁷ “I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?’ ⁸ And I answered, ‘Who are You, Lord?’ And He said to me, ‘I am Jesus the Nazarene, whom you are persecuting.’ ¹⁴ And he said, ‘The God of our fathers has appointed you to know His will and to see the Righteous One and to hear an utterance from His mouth.’”

Isaiah 53:11 “As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear their iniquities.”

3. Our _____ won’t always be _____ .

²¹ “And He said to me, ‘Go! For I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’ ²² They listened to him up to this statement, and then they raised their voices and said, ‘Away with such a fellow from the earth, for he should not be allowed to live!’”

¹ Peter 3:15-16 “But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence; ¹⁶ and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame.”

Notes: