

13 ROME AT LAST

KEY TEXT: ACTS 28:16-20,23-31

CENTRAL truth

The book of Acts concludes with Paul finally making it to Rome after a chaotic voyage. Even though he arrived as a prisoner, he continued to serve Jesus faithfully. As chapter 28 ends, Paul's imprisonment may feel like an abrupt cliffhanger to some of us. Yet we are reminded that Jesus's mission through His people continues today. **Through us, God continues to spread the good news of Jesus.**

key question

How did Paul spend his time while he was under house arrest? Why is this important?

Although Paul was under house arrest, he used the house he rented as a meeting place to teach others about Jesus and His kingdom. Being a prisoner under Caesar's rule did not keep Paul from teaching about God's rule and Jesus's victory. No matter what our phase of life is, God has placed us somewhere and given us resources for the purpose of sharing and living out the gospel. It's through us, as Jesus's followers, that the story continues.

keep in mind

- While some of the Jews Paul spoke to believed, others did not. Paul experienced rejection just as Jesus had experienced rejection. We too will experience rejection as we share and live our faith in Jesus. Allow your group to be a place where students can both process their discouragement and encourage one another.
- Paul demonstrated hospitality so that he could teach about the kingdom of God and the Lord Jesus. Followers of Jesus are called to be hospitable. Many people—both students and adults—may think that they need to have ample financial or physical resources to do this. Help students to identify ways that they can demonstrate hospitality with whatever the Lord has given them.

application

What does it look like for us to continue the story of Acts in our own lives?

the win

FOR THE STUDENT: Remind students that God works through His people to spread the good news. Through us, the story of Acts continues in our lives—and we all have a part to play.

FOR THE LEADER: Take time to discuss ways that your group can practically continue living out the story of Acts. Help students prayerfully consider people whom they can share the good news with.