

Lessons from Paul

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Key Points:

- Paul encouraged other believers to “Follow me as I follow Christ.” We should learn from his example of a life of faith, and our lives should also point others to Christ!
- Paul was bold, but at times even he had to pray for more boldness—so should we!
- Paul was robbed, whipped, and left for dead, while so many Christians are rich, bored, and barely alive. May we live differently; may we live passionately, fully alive!
- Paul was praying in tongues all the time, while we are unsure about who the Holy Spirit is, or let His gifts lie dormant. We should earnestly seek and stir up His gifts!
- Paul was often imprisoned, while we are free. May we use our freedom for His glory--to do whatever it takes to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the world!
- Paul was torn between wanting to be face to face with Jesus in heaven, and working to see His kingdom come on earth. We are more in love with this world than with Jesus. We need to remember that this world is not our home, and long to be in heaven in the presence of the One we love!
- Paul was full of zeal and passion, while apathy and halfhearted lethargy are the kryptonite to our walk of faith. May we stir up the fire of love for Jesus above all!

Main Scripture Reference(s):

- 1 Corinthians 11:1, Acts 9:27-28, Acts 14:3, Acts 19:8, Revelation 3:1, Romans 6:11, 1 Corinthians 14:18, Philippians 1:21-24, Romans 12:11

Discussion Questions:

1. Which of these lessons from Paul challenged you the most: Timidity versus boldness? Boredom in wealth versus being willing to give up everything to live fully for Christ? Uncertainty about the Holy Spirit versus earnestly desiring His gifts? Prizing our freedom and comfort versus being willing to be imprisoned for the gospel?
2. Is there an aspect of this world that has captured your heart more than heaven? Ask the Holy Spirit to help you continually turn your heart and your eyes back to Jesus and reignite your first love fire of longing to see Him face to face.
3. Who in your present life is further along than you in their walk of faith, whom you could look to for an example of a life that brings glory and honor to Jesus’ name? What particular areas of spiritual strength and wisdom do you observe in them, as models that you can follow as you follow Christ?