

Life Groups Discussion Guide

"Agabus & Paul" 10-19-25

Icebreaker

If you knew something difficult was coming your way — and couldn't avoid it — how would you prepare yourself spiritually and emotionally?

Scripture Reference

Acts 20:22-24 HCSB

Acts 21:10-14 HCSB

Intro

Before this message, how familiar were you with the prophet Agabus? Would you consider Paul a prophet?

Pastor Matt explained that with Agabus's first prophecy, he didn't tell the church to pray away the famine, but to prepare so they could be generous when it happened.

How does that change the way you think about how we respond to difficult situations? Should we pray things away? How would/will your prayers be affected by this scripture?

Takeaway: "Hearing the Spirit is a matter of sensitivity, but understanding the Spirit is a matter of humility."

What does it mean to "hear" the Holy Spirit versus "understand" the Holy Spirit?

Can you think of a time when you have heard God right but misinterpreted what He meant?

Pastor Matt said that the believers in Caesarea heard the same message from the Spirit but drew the wrong conclusion.

Why do you think it is easy for us, sometimes, to assume what God means rather than humbly seek clarity?

Takeaway: "The Holy Spirit's voice isn't always a warning to flee; it's often a whisper to be ready."

Have you ever felt like God was preparing you for something hard instead of delivering you from it? How did that experience grow your faith?

As it pertains to the takeaway...

How can we become better at discerning the difference between a warning and a revelation? What do you think the difference is, and how can we live in the tension of both?

Takeaway: "Suffering is a reward."

Pastor Matt told us that suffering connects us to our savior!

How have you experienced God's presence more deeply in a season of pain or struggle? What was the pain or struggle? And what helped get you through that time?

Pastor Matt said:

If everything in life were easy, there would be no opportunity to be Christlike.

Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not? What is your immediate reaction to suffering or hardship?

CLOSE

Ask for prayer requests and pray!