



the upside down series
week eighteen: the power of your testimony

1. Your testimony is powerful because of your _____.
2. Your testimony is powerful because it is _____.
3. Your testimony is powerful because of the people God _____ in your life.
4. Your testimony is powerful because of _____ events.
5. Your testimony is powerful because it is _____ by God.
6. Your testimony is powerful because of its _____.

We started talking about the power of a testimony last week, but we will really focus in on it this week. I hope you're ready!



day one: the past

Take a moment and pray asking God to keep his word fresh and renewing to your mind. Remove any distractions that may keep you from fully focusing on the Lord. Turn off your cell phone and the computer. You know the drill.

Read Acts 22:1-5

exploring the text

1. What is the significance of Paul addressing the crowd as “brothers and fathers”?

2. Paul starts by laying the foundation of his background. Why does he do that?

interesting fact

Paul's use of Greek (the language of the learned) startled the Roman commander; he assumed Paul was an uncultured Egyptian troublemaker.



day two: the meeting

We are looking at Paul's testimony. Yesterday we studied "the past". Today we will review the encounter between Paul and Jesus.

Read Acts 22:6-11.

exploring the text

1. What was Paul doing when Jesus met him in vs.6? What exact words are used at the beginning of the verse?
2. How specifically does Paul recall the encounter?
3. How personal was God's call to Paul?



day three: the others

No man is an island. Nowhere is that more true than in the life of the believer. Today we will look at the relationships that God used to grow Paul into the great apostle that he became.

Begin your time with Prayer.

Read Acts 22:12-21.

exploring the text

1. Who is the first person we meet in Paul's story and what do we find out about him?
2. What did it take for Ananias to be willing to go meet Paul that first time?
3. How much faith did it take for Ananias to say the things he said in vs. 14? Why?
4. How would other Jews perceive Paul's conversion?

verse

Romans 12:9-11

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.



day four: don't hate me because I'm Roman

verse

How's your week going? I know life is busy, but make spending time with the Lord a priority. I know I need Him in my life daily. Don't give up even if some days seem drier than others. God always sees you and knows what you're going through.

Today read Acts 22:22-30.

exploring the text

1. How did the crowd respond to Paul's testimony?

2. How would you have responded if you were Paul?

3. On what basis did the centurion stop flogging Paul?

Joel 2:25-27

I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent among you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God and there is none else. And my people shall never again be put to shame.



day five: personal reflection

Today is a day of personal reflection and prayer.

personal application

1. How are you doing spiritually?
2. In what ways are you growing in the Lord?
3. Think about your circumstances. How is God using the trials in your life to bring you close to him?

4. Are you waiting on the Lord in an area of your life? How has the study of the life of Paul helped you maintain perspective as to what is most important in life?

5. What character trait of God are you understanding in a new way this year?

6. How is God using you to impact those around you - both at church and outside of church?

prayer

Tell God of your desire to be obedient. Talk to him about the difficulties that you face because of your sin. Ask him to cleanse you and to help you run the race with fervor.