

4. Was it right for Paul to tell the centurion about his Roman citizenship in Acts 22:25? Why or why not? If we are told to lay down our lives for the sake of Jesus Christ (Luke 9:23-24), then how could Paul insist on his rights as a Roman citizen?

5. We know that Jesus Himself did not insist on His rights when He was flogged and crucified (Matthew 27:27-31; Isaiah 54:7). In fact, Jesus denied Himself many privileges while here on earth (Philippians 2:5-8). What makes Paul's situation different than that of Jesus Christ (Acts 19:21; 23:11)?

6. How might you utilize your American citizenship as a means of furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ? How can you personally reconcile standing up for your rights while also laying down your life and denying yourself for the gospel (Luke 9:23)? What will that look like for you this week?

Memory Verse:

“As they stretched him out to flog him, Paul said to the centurion standing there, ‘Is it legal for you to flog a Roman citizen who hasn’t even been found guilty?’”

(Acts 22:25, NIV)