

Title: Sometimes the Truth Hurts

Passage: Acts 21:1-27

Date: 2/9/25

The Trailhead:

Have you ever felt like you were being “led” to do something? How did you respond to that leading and what were the results?

Discussion:

v.1-14

How can we know if the “spirit” we are being led by is the Holy Spirit or our own desires? How does the input and council of our Christian brothers and sisters play in to our decision making? How does the leading of the Holy Spirit make itself clear to us? What are safeguards we can put up to be sure?

Why does Paul choose to go to Jerusalem in spite of the council of his fellows? Do you think this was the right decision? How does God’s sovereignty extend over our decision making (good or bad)?

v.15-27

Why is the church in Jerusalem significant to the disciples and the early church in general? What is the tension between the Jewish believers and the Gentile believers? How does the truth of the Gospel unify those viewpoints? What role did gossip play in the tarnishing of Paul’s reputation among the jews? What similar dangers does it pose to us? How does Paul respond differently to the council of Godly men in this section than he did in the previous section? What are the results?

What do these two accounts teach us about the place of seeking Godly council, prayer, being “led”, and the Sovereignty of God? What caution should we take and what encouragement is there to be had?