

Give God the Glory
Text: Acts 12:20-25
March 2, 2024

Big Idea: Only God deserves the glory, so give it all to Him.

Context is key!

Question #1 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

Question #2 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What does the text say about God and about me?

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) How does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

Question #3 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What are the principles, commands or promises given?

- a) What is the overall theme of the text?
- b) Does the passage include any promise from God? If so, what?

Question #4

- a) What is God's glory?
- b) Why are we so tempted to want God's glory for ourselves?
- c) Why is competing with God for His glory a major hindrance to us living on mission faithfully?

Only God deserves the glory because...

Point 1: There's only ONE GOD... (vv. 20-23)

Question: God will not compete for His glory. Will you heed His warning and humble yourself?

Question #5

- a) **Rd. vv. 20-23:** Who was King Herod and what motivated his persecution of the Church?
- b) **Rd Acts 10:25-26:** How was King Herod's response to man's praise different from Peter's?
- c) How does God's judgement on Herod, point to the final judgement that all who reject God will have?
- d) How should knowing the end of those who reject Christ stir us up for fervent witness?
- e) Make a list of 5 unbelievers around you and pray with the group for your bold witness to them.

Question #6

- a) **Rd Luke 14:11:** What does God promise to those who exalt themselves?
- b) When are you most tempted to make your glory your priority?
- c) What are you thinking in those moments?
- d) What is it you really want that you think glory from man will give you?
- e) Spend time in repentance of your unbelief; and look up 2 gospel promises that show how the gospel fulfills what you are seeking at those times.

Point 2: ...and He will ESTABLISH His KINGDOM. (vv. 24-25)

Question: Jesus will defeat opposition and build His Church. Will you give Him the glory?

Question #7

- a) **Rd vv. 24-25:** What happened when the Lord overcame the opposition to the Church?
- b) How should this give us confidence as we face opposition in our witness?
- c) Where do you need to remember this today in your witness?

Question #8

It's Acts Trivia time! You will be playing this game as a group. But before you meet together...

- a) **Review chapter's 1-12** and come up with 3 trivia questions that will be asked to your small group.
- b) There will be 1 leader & scorekeeper for each team who will collect all the questions from their team members (1 point per question).
- c) The small group will be divided into two teams and the leader for each team will alternate asking the opposing team each question. The team that answers the most questions right, wins.
- d) **NOTE:** Please be sure that your questions can be answered and are not based on obscure facts, but rather, the key points of the text we've gone over!

Question #9

Chapter 12 concludes Part 2 of the book of Acts: The Witness to Judea & Samaria.

- a) What are 2-3 things you learned about God? Yourself? The Church (Local & Universal)?
- b) What are you looking forward to the most as we, Lord willing, continue through the book?
- c) Spend time in prayer thanking the Lord for His work through His Word.

Prayer Application

Spend time as a group/in accountability in prayer...

- a) **REVERENCE** before God: Lord, only You deserve glory because_____.
- b) **HUMILITY** before God: Jesus, I repent of my glory being priority when_____.
- c) **THANKSGIVING:** Jesus, thank You for showing Your glory through_____.
- d) **SUPPLICATION** to God: Jesus, I ask for i) Greater humility in_____. ii) Greater desire for You to be exalted and not me iii) You to build Your Church and overcome the opposition of (Include the global church in this also).

Memory Verse:

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."-Acts 1:8