



Sermon  
Discussion  
Guide

Sunday, September 14, 2025

## ACTS – Faithful Witness Lucky!

### Read/Reflect

1. Read Acts 20:1-12. Look at a map of Paul's third missionary journey to see where he travelled. At Acts 20 he begins his return to Jerusalem (Acts 19:21)
2. Jesus in the midst of all his travels also aimed for Jerusalem, where like Paul (Acts 21:27-36), he was arrested, and subsequently put on trial. Both scenarios happen around the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Luke 22; Acts 20:6), both involve breaking bread together (Luke 22:7ff; Acts 20:7), and both recall people falling asleep (Luke 22:45f; Acts 20:9). Do you think these parallels are coincidental or is Luke suggesting something about Jesus and the church? What would it be?
3. Paul raising Eutychus to life sounds like the story in I Kings 17:19-23; also II Kings 4:32-35; also Acts 9:40-41. Jesus also raised three people from the dead. What do you make of these parallels?

### Explore

4. Have you ever fallen asleep in church? How did you justify or excuse it?
5. How should the story of Eutychus falling asleep in church be explained?
  - ☐ A big warning for all who fall asleep spiritually.
  - ☐ We should make every effort not to make church boring.
  - ☐ Church will be tiresome, but press on, you have a celebration to attend!
6. What should worship services look like today? Acts 20:7-12 is one of the first descriptions of a Christian church gathering for worship (another might be Acts 2:42-47). From the passage what parts are mentioned? What parts carry on into today's worship gatherings?

### Pray

- Pray for the church (perhaps specifically in Canada);
  - for God to guard and guide it in a time when many are dismissing the church,
  - for forgiveness and God's mercy when the church contributes to troubles in our world,
  - for renewal when we are hearing and seeing hints of deep desire for faith among younger generations.