

GROUPS Resource | August 31, 2025

You get this resource if you have informed True Hope that you are part of a group.

GATHER

1. Gather based on the agreed rhythm of your group.
2. Groups are about shared accountability.
3. A shared desire to grow is the fuel for a healthy group.

REVIEW YOUR WEEK

1. What have your spiritual habits looked like?
2. Share what's been going on in your life.

SERMON OVERVIEW:

Message Title: "The Danger of Delay"

Acts 24:1-27

And after five days the high priest Ananias came down with some elders and a spokesman, one Tertullus. They laid before the governor their case against Paul. ²And when he had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying:

"Since through you we enjoy much peace, and since by your foresight, most excellent Felix, reforms are being made for this nation, ³in every way and everywhere we accept this with all gratitude. ⁴But, to detain you no further, I beg you in your kindness to hear us briefly. ⁵For we have found this man a plague, one who stirs up riots among all the Jews throughout the world and is a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes.⁶ He even tried to profane the temple, but we seized him. ⁸By examining him yourself you will be able to find out from him about everything of which we accuse him."

⁹The Jews also joined in the charge, affirming that all these things were so.

¹⁰And when the governor had nodded to him to speak, Paul replied:

"Knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation, I cheerfully make my defense. ¹¹You can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem, ¹²and they did not find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the temple or in the synagogues or in the city.¹³ Neither can they prove to you what they now bring up against me. ¹⁴But this I confess to

you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, ¹⁵ having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust.¹⁶ So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man. ¹⁷ Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings. ¹⁸ While I was doing this, they found me purified in the temple, without any crowd or tumult. But some Jews from Asia— ¹⁹ they ought to be here before you and to make an accusation, should they have anything against me. ²⁰ Or else let these men themselves say what wrongdoing they found when I stood before the council, ²¹ other than this one thing that I cried out while standing among them: 'It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day.'"

²² But Felix, having a rather accurate knowledge of the Way, put them off, saying, "When Lysias the tribune comes down, I will decide your case."²³ Then he gave orders to the centurion that he should be kept in custody but have some liberty, and that none of his friends should be prevented from attending to his needs.

²⁴ After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus.²⁵ And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, "Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you."²⁶ At the same time he hoped that money would be given him by Paul. So he sent for him often and conversed with him. ²⁷ When two years had elapsed, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus. And desiring to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul in prison.

GROUP DISCUSSION: *(Feel free to answer as many or as few as you see fit.)*

1. What stands out to you from the text?
2. Where did the sermon intersect most with your life right now?
3. Describe a time when you put something off, and it ended up costing you (it doesn't have to be spiritual).
4. Why is it so easy to put off things and not act on them today?

5. God wants to communicate all kinds of things with you, some might be challenges, or exhortations, but others might be encouragement and affirmation. Why is it so easy to “leave God’s emails unopened?”
6. As AW Tozer says, “Tomorrow is the devil’s word.” Today is God’s word. Why do you think he says this?
7. Psalm 95:7-8 “For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts...”

Where might you be hardening your heart today? Where have you maybe read the
subject line from God, but been too afraid to open the email and reply?

GOSPEL IN ACTION

1. Encourage each other based on what you have shared
2. Pray with each other