

DISCOVERY



CHRISTIAN CHURCH

August 22 and 25
What are you Waiting for? Emilie Knauss

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Primary Scripture: Acts 24:1-22

Secondary Scripture: Acts 22:14-16, Romans 12:2

QUOTE

The more amiably and esprit de corps among the members of a policy-making in-group, the greater is the danger that independent critical thinking will be replaced by groupthink, which is likely to result in irrational and dehumanizing actions directed against out-groups.

- Irving Janis

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Groupthink (mob mentality) is very common within the human experience. Why do you think that is? What's an example of where you've recently seen groupthink played out? When have you been a part of it?
2. Out of all of the trial appearances and jail time Paul went through, he still wanted to tell people about how Jesus changed his life. If you're a follower of Jesus, do you feel this way when you're around others? Why/why not? If you're not a follower of Jesus, how would you have reacted to Paul? How do you react to people like him?
3. Read Acts 24:24-27. Here Luke records that Roman Governor Felix and his wife meet with Paul, and Paul shares his faith with them. Felix listens to him up until the point where he becomes scared, and then he tells Paul to go away. What do you think Felix was scared of?
4. When we look at the life of Paul we see him transformed from an angry and driven Pharisee, a leader in the groupthink mentality, to a follower of Jesus who is now in the Roman judicial system, trying to share his faith with the Roman governor. Paul found something truly life-changing when he met Jesus. If you are a follower of Christ, what have you found through following Jesus? If you're not, what would you hope to find?
5. Read Romans 12:2 with your group. Whether you're a believer or not, what scares you about allowing God to transform your life? If you're thinking about following Jesus or if you know God is nudging you to do something different, *what are you waiting for?* What's something you will do this week to move in your faith journey?