

For the week of June 11, 2017
Pastor: Scott Grant

To Know and Be Known

Final week in the series *Sent: Living the Mission of the Church*

Acts 28:15-31

The church doesn't enjoy the greatest reputation around here these days. It didn't enjoy the greatest reputation among Jews of Paul's day. How can we respond? How did Paul respond?

Discussion Questions:

1. The Enlightenment narrative climaxes in 18th century Europe with the victory of faith in humanity over faith in God. The biblical narrative climaxes in 1st century Palestine with the victory of God over evil in the death and resurrection of Christ. Compare and contrast these two narratives.
2. Simeon said that the coming of Christ would mean that "thoughts from many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:35), and the writer of Hebrews says that the Gospel is like a sharp, "two-edged sword" that exposes the "thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12-13). How have you seen the Gospel expose what's in your heart or other people's hearts?
3. How have you seen the Gospel triumph in surprising, unexpected ways?
4. Note that in Acts 28, the church has a bad reputation among Jews. Today in our part of the world, the church doesn't enjoy the best reputation. What sort of response (or non-response) on the part of believers do you think is called for?