

STUDY GUIDE

for the week of 12/1-12/7
Acts 20:1-12



WHATS THE STORY?

Paul travels back through Macedonia and Greece, before heading to Troas to gather with other believers. Here, Paul raises a young man from the dead while fellowshiping with other Christians, displaying the power of the resurrection.

LECTIO DEVINA

Prepare: Find a calm and quiet place to read and absorb the passage.

Read: Read through the passage. Listen for any words or phrases that jump out and listen for what God has to say.

Reflect: Try to understand what God could be saying to you through this passage.

Respond: Journal or pray to God, communicating about what you think God was telling you through Scripture.

Rest: Spend time contemplating, allowing God to work.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why does Paul see it as so crucial to encourage the churches?
- What does healthy Christian community look like?
- Where do you see the power of the resurrection in your life?



FAMILY STUDY

Discuss: Have you ever reached out to an old friend? How did it go?

Why is it important to maintain relationships with old church friends and family?

Paul exemplified power to resurrect; where did that power come from?

A Deeper Look

Paul started back to Jerusalem after spending more than two years in Ephesus. He went north to the region of Macedonia all the while ministering to the churches that were started a few chapters ago in Acts. Paul exemplified a heart for discipling the Christians who he had met and churches he had planted as he originally made his way to Ephesus. He stayed three months in Greece before attempting to set sail back to Syria, but some believers warned him of a plan to harm him. We aren't told what exactly the plan was, but it made him change course and go through Macedonia. Here, Luke introduces us to Paul's companions, many of whom are new to us as readers. With him were Sopater, Aristarchus, Gaius, Timothy, Tychicus, and Trophimos (names you wouldn't want to have to announce in public!). Luke seems to note that he was one of the ones who stayed behind in Ephesus only to meet up with them in Troas after the Festival of Unleavened Bread.

In Troas, things got strange: Paul preached late into the night and a young man name Eutychus fell asleep and fell out of a window. This provided Paul with an opportunity to exemplify Christ's power of resurrection. They then continued eating as if nothing had happened and Paul left the next morning.