

**Matt Lyle**

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Message 23 of 25

**Following God**

**Sets us Free**

***Acts 25–26***

# Introduction

### Life is filled with waiting.

### We will see that Paul is through waiting.

# I. The wait is over (25:1-12).

## Jewish leaders used the new governor as an opportunity to kill Paul (25:1-7).

## Paul used the new governor and trial as an opportunity to go to Rome (25:8-12).

## When you are called by God, you should pursue that calling with a single-minded focus (application).

Use change as an opportunity to examine your life in relation to God’s calling (application).

# II. The world will not understand (25:13-22).

## Festus did not understand arguments against Paul (25:13-19).

## Festus did not understand why Paul wanted trial in Rome (25:20-22).

## The world does not know that Jesus is alive. The world is foolish.

# III. Jesus is the Messiah (26:1-32).

## Paul shared his life before he knew Jesus (26:1-11).

## Paul testified how he met Jesus (26:12-18)

## Paul testified of the impact of meeting Jesus (26:19-23, 29).

## The world will not understand our faith (26:24-28, 30-32).

## **Conclusion**

### **When we know Christ, risen from the grave, and then follow his will, we will be free, even if in chains.** (Main Idea).

### Let your life reflect your hope in Jesus and his resurrection.

### Be ready to explain your hope in Jesus and his resurrection.

**Personal Testimony Grading Criteria (1 -Poor to 5-Excellent)**

**Introduction**

**Gets attention** on the main idea (an interesting “Ho Hum!”)

**Raises curiosity or need** (“Why bring that up?”)

1 2 3 4 5

**Pre-Conversion Life** explains your problem(s)

**Struggles** are realistic, specific & relate to your main idea

1 2 3 4 5

**Conversion** shows how Christ solved your problem(s)

**Notes** what the gospel is (substitutionary atonement, resurrection)

**Explains the story** how & when you trusted Christ (not just “God”)

1 2 3 4 5

**Post-Conversion Life** shows positive results

**Specific changes** in present tense (“For Instance!”)

1 2 3 4 5

**Conclusion** (“So What?”) related to main idea & “real”

1 2 3 4 5

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