

THE DEFENSE RESTS discussion questions

1. What stands out to you about many of the arguments that you observe in the world today? What kinds of words and methods do we tend to use? Why do we communicate in those ways?

2. What stands out to you from the accusations brought by Tertullus (24:1-9)? When have you been tempted to use the kinds of arguments used by him?

3. What stands out to you from Paul's defense (24:10-21)? What is necessary to be able to speak in this way and avoid being drawn into foolish and unfruitful arguments?

4.Why was Felix "alarmed" by what Paul said (24:25)?

5. Paul is forced to wait in prison for at least two years because of Felix's unwillingness to make a decision (24:27). What do you think this time must have been like for Paul?

6. It might seem like a waste of potential to have Paul in prison for two years. Similarly, though, we all go through seasons that seem wasted, whether due to health issues, family commitments, job constraints, etc. When have you gone through a "wasted" season like that? What might God have been doing with that time? What did you learn?