West Suburban
COMMUNITY CHURCH

***"Gospel Courage"* – Part 2**

Acts 21:27-23:11 ◆ Pastor Jim Lennon

November 15, 2026

Introduction – *In his mission to share the Gospel with the Gentiles, the apostle Paul faced tremendous opposition and suffering. Today we'll continue to seek inspiration from the courage he displayed in his witness of the Gospel.*

I. The Conflict for the Gospel.

A. Many will find the message of the Gospel offensive.

B. In the first century the Gospel was offensive to the Jewish people because of the scandal of being a condemned criminal and suffer crucifixion.

C. Today, the Gospel is offense today for three main reasons.

1. The message is too _____.
2. The message is too _____.
3. The message is too _____.

D. To share the Gospel with courage we must understand three things about our new identity in Christ.

II. We Are a Citizen of Two Worlds.

A. We are citizens of this world.

B. In Jesus we have been given a new Identity. (II Cor. 5:17)

C. As believers in Jesus we now have a dual citizenship.

1. We are citizens of this world.

2. We are also citizens of _____. (Philippians 3:20-21)

D. Earlier in Acts we see that our heavenly citizenship trumps our earthly citizenship.

III. We Are Religious Outliers.

A. To many secular and religious people born-again Christians are weird.

B. In Paul's day people didn't know what to call them.

C. The Gospel is at odds with most of the religious systems in the world.

IV. We Are Not Alone.

A. The Lord stands by Paul and tells him to "take courage."

B. How do we do that?

1. Our faith in the Lord and what we know to be true.

2. Knowing that the Lord is with us. (Matthew 28:20)

3. Knowing that the Lord will cause everything to work together for good. (Romans 8:28)

Conclusion.