



1. One dictionary defines the word compelling as "having a powerful or irresistible effect" and "requiring attention and respect." If something is compelling, we're drawn to it. We can't ignore it; it demands attention and action. What are some of the things you find compelling? What are some of the things our culture finds compelling?
2. Agree or disagree with the following statement: "The truth of Christianity is compelling." Explain why you answered the way you did.
3. Read Acts 20:24. How does this verse show us that Paul is compelled by the gospel?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, where Paul provides an important summary of the gospel. From your observation of this passage, what are core elements of the gospel?
5. Read Acts 9:1-22, where we learn about Paul's (he's called "Saul" in this passage) conversion experience. As a group, talk about what we know of Paul's life before Jesus, how he encountered Jesus, and the immediate difference Jesus made in his life.
6. Review what you've seen in 1 Corinthians 15 and Acts 9 - Paul's understanding of the gospel and his experience of the gospel. Based on what you know from these passages, explain why the gospel is compelling.
7. Instead of being compelled by the gospel, Christians can become complacent toward the gospel. Why can contribute to gospel complacency? Why is this gospel complacency dangerous?
8. As we read about Paul's life in Acts, we know the gospel compelled him to live for Jesus in at least five ways: (1) love for others; (2) a care for others' salvation; (3) cultivating an eternal perspective; (4) taking risks; and (5) giving of himself.
 - ~ Reflect on your own life: Are you closer to "complacent" or "compelled" in each of these areas?
 - ~What practical steps can you take to be compelled by the gospel in these ways?
9. At Brookside, we want to show that the gospel of Christianity is compelling. What difference should "compelling Christianity" make in our church? In our city?
10. What is your biggest take-away from what you've learned about the power of the gospel?
11. We've been calling these sermons through the book of Acts "nucleus" - drawing our attention to core truths of the Christian faith. The core truths we've looked at are (1) The Power of Community; (2) The Power of the Holy Spirit; and (3) The Power of the Gospel. By way of review, why is it important to keep core truths like this in mind? How can you keep these core truths as top priorities in your life?
12. Challenge: Memorize Acts 20:24: "However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace."



This week's reading
(Mon, Sept 12 - Sun, Sept 18)

MON - Acts 20-21 & Psalm 111

TUES - Acts 22-23 & Psalm 112

WED - Acts 24-26 & Psalm 113

THURS - Acts 27-28 & Psalm 114

FRI - Galatians 1-2 & Psalm 115

SAT - Galatians 3-4 & Psalm 116

SUN - Galatians 5-6 & Psalm 117