



## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of June 29, 2025

Acts 12:20-25

***[20] Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon, and they came to him with one accord, and having persuaded Blastus, the king's chamberlain, they asked for peace, because their country depended on the king's country for food. [21] On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them. [22] And the people were shouting, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!" [23] Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last. [24] But the word of God increased and multiplied. [25] And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark.***

1. In a fallen world that seems to reward arrogant, self-promoting wickedness, how can a Christian ensure that he/she gets their fair share of the good things in life? How would you define "the good things in life"?
2. Why do you think human beings crave applause, recognition, and affirmation? What is so intoxicating about being recognized as superior to others (i.e. who is the greatest)? Since the beginning, why do you think we all want to be like God?
3. How does social media contribute to the problem of pride? Should Christians abstain from social media or can there be a "balanced" approach? What would that look like?
4. Should Christians never seek to "look good"? Is it more "godly" to simply not care about one's appearance? Describe what you think would be a Christ-like approach to one's physical appearance.
5. Why is human pride so easy to see (and despise) in others, but so difficult to recognize (or admit) in ourselves? Can a sweet, kind, generous "godly" person still struggle with Herod-like pride? Explain
6. Why do you think God struck down Herod? Using the same logic, why doesn't God strike every person down, (including yourself) right now?
7. We heard in our sermon that the antidote to pride is to come to Jesus and be full of Him and drained of ourselves. Explain what you think this means and how Christians can do this.