

# Small Group Discussion Guide

“Can’t Stop - Won’t Stop (pt. 2)” 05.22.16

**Scripture:** Acts 23:12-15; 25:24-27; 26:12-23

**Bottom Line:** God gives us what we don't deserve...He gives us unending grace.

## INTRODUCTION/BREAKING THE ICE:

Summer is here! Take time to ask some of the following questions to “break the ice” with your group. What was your favorite thing to do during the summer as a child? What is your favorite thing to do during the summer as an adult? What are some fun outings we can do as a small group this summer?

## UNPACKING THE GOSPEL:

Have you ever felt as if the deck was stacked against you? What is your typical response when life seems unfair? Being treated in such a way can cause us to want to give up. How do you keep going when you feel unfairly treated?

### Read Acts 23:12-15

If you just skim the book of Acts and the letters of Paul, what you see is a man that faced decades of almost constant, undeserved harm, harassing, suffering, and pain at the hands of people who treated him incredibly unfairly. If there was ever a person who could have looked at the unfair ways he was treated and tossed in the towel it was Paul.

1) *If the the unfairness of life is a powerful call to give up, what do you believe the greater call on Paul's life was which caused him to be a “Can't Stop-Won't Stop person?”*

### Read Acts 25:24-27; 26:12-23

Before Paul is to be executed he is brought before the King for a trial. He is found innocent and given the opportunity to speak.

1) *Paul doesn't point to the fact he has been treated unfairly, but that God had been unfair to him. What do you think the idea of “God was not fair” to Paul means?*

2) *The gospel says we deserve death and separation from God due to our sinful rebellion. God gives us what we don't deserve...unending grace (Romans 5:6-10). How does unending grace change the way you view God? How does it change the way you believe God views you? How does it change the way you view and treat other people?*

## LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE

1) *Our culture revolves around people “getting what they deserve”. However, that's not how God treated us and we are called to imitate Him (Ephesians 5:1). What are some ways you can show kindness to those who don't deserve it?*

2) *Is there someone in your life you have held a “grudge” against or given the “silent treatment” to because they treated you unfairly? How can you reach out to show unending grace to those individuals this week? Take time to pray with one another about those conversations.*