

## The Acts of the Apostles - Chapters 22-23 Study Questions

1. **Acts 22:3** How were you educated in the Catholic faith?  
In what areas of the faith do you think you need more education?
  
2. **Acts 22:4–5** How eager have you been to spread or defend the faith and what have you done?  
Have you ever left the Catholic Church and tried to draw others out?  
If you never left the Church, how have you tried to draw others into her?
  
3. **Acts 22:8** How closely do you identify with baptized persons who are homeless, ill, or in prison?  
How would Jesus identify with them?  
**Footnote p. 245, 22:16 Be baptized**
  
4. **Acts 23:1** How important is a well formed conscience?  
How do you go about creating a well formed conscience?  
**CCC 1783** Conscience must be informed and moral judgment enlightened. A well-formed conscience is upright and truthful. It formulates its judgments according to reason, in conformity with the true good willed by the wisdom of the Creator. The education of conscience is indispensable for human beings who are subjected to negative influences and tempted by sin to prefer their own judgment and to reject authoritative teachings.  
**CCC 1784** The education of the conscience is a lifelong task. From the earliest years, it awakens the child to the knowledge and practice of the interior law recognized by conscience. Prudent education teaches virtue; it prevents or cures fear, selfishness and pride, resentment arising from guilt, and feelings of complacency, born of human weakness and faults. The education of the conscience guarantees freedom and engenders peace of heart.  
**CCC 1785** In the formation of conscience the Word of God is the light for our path, we must assimilate it in faith and prayer and put it into practice. We must also examine our conscience before the Lord's Cross. We are assisted by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, aided by the witness or advice of others and guided by the authoritative teaching of the Church.
  
5. **Acts 23:6** What were some of the issues that divided the Pharisee and Sadducee parties?  
What was Paul's strategy in identifying himself as a Pharisee?  
**Footnote p. 246, 23:6 Sadducees ... Pharisees**  
**Who Are the Pharisees** (p. 69)  
**Who Are the Sadducees** (p. 89)

6. **Acts 23:6–9** With the answer to the previous question in mind, what do you make of Paul's strategy of causing dissension in the courtroom?

How do you deal with people who seem habitually inclined to stir up trouble?

How do you restore peace in relationships?

7. **Acts 23:11** We have observed God's protection of Paul. Think about God's hand in your life and ministry. How have you seen him work to protect and direct you toward his will?

**John 14:27** (p. 190)

**John 16:33** (p. 193)

8. **Acts 23:26–30** Have you ever taken steps to cover your mistakes by rearranging certain facts, lest a superior or a friend find out the truth?

Looking back, how would you evaluate your conscience in behavior on such occasions?

**Romans 2:12-16** (p. 259) and Footnote **2:14 By nature**