

2006-07 BSP#5 Group Time Discussion

(A) Questions on the Text (Suggested time: 15 minutes)

1. Luke's account of Herod Agrippa's death in 12:21-23 is corroborated by the Jewish historian Josephus. Why did Herod Agrippa die as he did? Whom does Herod Agrippa's death remind you of? (Read 2 Mac 9:5-12)
2. Read Acts 13:5. What was Paul's strategy when he entered a new missionary frontier? What were the practical as well as theological considerations that shaped this strategy? (Read 13:46)

(B) Session Review (Suggested time: 20 minutes)

Review today's session outline for the Navigator's Time, particularly the summary (item F). What is the most important point you learned from today's session? Why? Are there any issues discussed in today's Navigator's Time that you don't understand? Discuss them with your group members and see if they can help you. If satisfactory answers are not readily available, put the issues or questions on paper. Either bring them up during Q&A or submit them to the navigator for post-session response.

(C) Optional Application Question (Suggestion: Do this question only if your group chooses not to do (B) above.)

Read Acts 11:27-28 and CCC 799-801 below. How would you evaluate claims for or against the exercise of charismatic prophecy in today's Church? Because such prophecy falls into the category of "private revelation", how would you evaluate it if you heard it?

799. 無論是特殊的或是單純微小的神恩都是聖神的恩寵，它們直接或間接地有益於教會，用來建設教會、造福人群，及滿足世界的需要。

800. 不但是那些領受的人，連教會的所有成員都要以感恩之心去接納神恩。因為它們為整個基督身體的宗徒活力和聖德，是一個奇妙的恩寵富源，只要它們實在是來自聖神的恩寵，而且完全依照聖神的真正策勵，即是依照愛德——神恩的真正標準去實施。

801. 根據這種意義，可見分辨神恩常是必需的。一切神恩必須請示並服從於教會的牧者，「他們的職責，並非在熄滅聖神，而是考驗一切，擇其善而取之」，務使一切不同而互補的神恩，都能合力謀求「公眾的利益」（格前 12:7）。