-Acts 25

-The Heart of the Matter

-Do we believe Jesus is alive today?

-Will we testify?

-Matthew 16:18 "...I will build My church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it."

-Do we maintain our assertion that Jesus is indeed risen from the grave?

-Philippians 3:8-10 (ESV) 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith-- 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

-Do we forfeit our opportunity to testify to the power of the Gospel before certain audiences?

-Ephesians 6:19-20 (ESV) 19 and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

-Philippians 1:19-21 (ESV) 19 for l know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, 20 as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

-Philippians 1:12-14 (ESV) 12 I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, 13 so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. 14 And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

-1 Corinthians 8:4-13

... 12 Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ...

-1 Corinthians 15:14-22 (ESV) 14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain... 19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. 20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

-The Heart of the Matter: -Do we believe in the risen Savior? -Are we willing to say so?