



Week #2 The Pre-Game Talk: Defense



“Why are those evangelical Christians so intolerant?” Do you ever hear this criticism coming from the secular culture? How do we answer this charge? This Sunday during **Game On** we look at Part 2 of Paul’s challenge: **The Pre-Game Talk: Defense**.

Relevant Information (Large Group)

- What is the best/worst job you have ever had?
- Rate your week 1-5 (1 being difficult, 5 being great).
- What was one thing that stood out to you from the message on Sunday?
- Read Acts 20:25-27. Why is Paul sharing these words and what does it mean in our context to “not shrink back”?
- What ideas or images come to mind when you hear the word “criticism”? Why?
- Read Acts 20:28-31. What advice can we learn from Paul’s words in regards to our church?
- How would you describe your past experiences in regard to people criticizing your beliefs?
- Read John 17:8-19 What does Jesus want for us and our church?
- How do people usually handle criticism/opposition in their lives?
- How should we be preparing ourselves for opposition from other people?
- What are some practical ways we can handle opposition to what we believe?
- In light of our discussion, is there an additional insight you would like to discuss further with the group?

Gracious Obedience “Application” (Smaller Groups 2-6 people)

- What is one topic or concept that stood out to you in our discussion tonight?
- How can you apply that topic or concept to your life?

Walking Together (Smaller Groups 2-6 people)

- Share one way you hope God meets you in this study.

Outreach (Large Group)

- Think of someone who you could invite to join you during a Sunday morning experience. Next, pray that God would give you an opportunity this week to invite them.