

WE ARE ALL
WITNESSES
THE BOOK OF ACTS

Shipwrecked

Pastor Jeff Bucknam | Acts 27:1–44

ICE BREAKER:

Think of a time when you/someone you know went through an intense rain, snow, or wind storm. Who was there? What happened?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT IN CONTEXT:

Briefly recap why Paul is on this journey to Rome. What added to the potential risk and danger of this particular voyage? List the diverse cast of characters and describe their mindset and responses as the trip unfolds.

CONNECTING TO JESUS AND HIS GOSPEL:

Consider Jesus when he was in storms with his disciples. What was his attitude, despite the scary circumstances? How does Jesus display an unnatural calmness despite circumstances? How does Jesus want his disciples to respond as they look to him?

LIVING OUT THE TRUTH:

Share how you have seen the Lord work in storms you've faced in the past.

What are some current storms?

Pray for one another. Pray to know the presence of the Lord through whatever purposes God will accomplish in those storms.

Together, read Romans 8:28-31, 38-39 as an anchor for you this week.

PARENTING MOMENT:

Read Psalm 23 together as a family and ask what stands out to each person. Focus on verse 3, reminding your family that storms will come, and it can be tempting to avoid God or blame Him. But as followers of Jesus, God calls us to walk through the valley of the shadow of death—and He promises to be with us in the midst of it.

Pray together for confidence that God will always be near during life's storms.

FURTHER STUDY:

Take courage from more of John Paton's story of God's Presence with him and God's Purposes through him.

Read, or listen to, "You Will Be Eaten by Cannibals! Lessons from the Life of John G. Paton" at desiringgod.org

For more on Providence, read the article, "Can God's Warnings and Our Response Be Genuine If He Is Absolutely Sovereign?" at www.thegospelcoalition.org.

For a peek behind the curtain of God's ultimate purpose, read Ephesians chapter 1, as the Apostle Paul praises God and prays.