

The Heart of the Matter

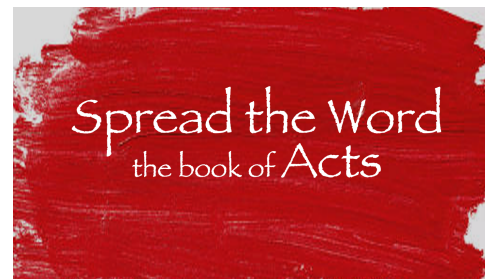
12. What storm of life have you been caught up in? How did God see you through it? What did you learn through it all?

13. How do you react in the midst of a crisis? In what areas of crisis management do you need to grow?

14. How has God used a disaster in your life for ministry?

15. How can you continue Paul's outreach efforts from all that we have seen and learned in our study of the book of Acts?

Praises and Prayer Requests:



Life Group Study Guide

Living Under His Sovereign Grace Acts 21:1-28:31 For the Week of September 5, 2021

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. If you could take a honeymoon cruise anywhere, where would you go?
3. Have you ever been seasick? What happened? How did you recover?

Digging Deeper

4. As Paul set sail for Rome in Acts 27 what might he and his companions be thinking? From verses 1-3 and 43, what do we know about Julius, the centurion, who was in charge of Paul? How would you describe the relationship Paul had with him?

5. If you were the ship's owner or pilot, how might you react to Paul's warning in verse 10? According to verses 13-20, how severe was the storm they encountered? Verse 27 indicates that the storm lasted over two weeks. During this time, what do you think everyone was thinking on board the ship: Paul? Julius? the pilot? the ship's owner? the sailors?

6. Why was it important for Paul to hear from God in verse 24 what he had already heard from God in 23:11? Compare verse 31 and verse 11. How does the centurion feel about Paul now?

7. How do Paul's words and his example serve to encourage the other members of his journey throughout this chapter? How would your estimation of Paul change during the two weeks of the storm?

8. How do you imagine the scene in verses 39-44? What was likely said? How did people look? How did they all feel? How do Paul's attitudes and actions compare with those of the sailors? To what would you attribute Paul's ability to remain calm under pressure?

9. What seems to be the main theme of verses 28:1-10? How was God's power displayed through what took place? In light of the fact that God wanted Paul to get to Rome, why do you think God allowed all the events in 27:1-28:9 to happen?

10. Why might Paul take the initiative to call this meeting with the Jewish leaders in Rome in verses 17-20? How do Paul's statements in 23:6, 24:21, 26:8, and 28:20 illustrate what he means by being a "prisoner for the Lord"? (Ephesians 4:1; Philippians 1:13-14; Colossians 4:3; Philemon 1)

11. In light of all that Paul went through, how do you think he felt when he heard the Jews' response in verse 21? Verse 31 is similar to other summary verses in Acts (6:7; 9:31; 12:24; 16:5; 19:20). What does this ending reveal about Luke's central concern in writing this book?