

FAITH NOT SHIPWRECKED

ACTS 27

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: If a near death experience has happened to you, share your story.

GOD'S PROVIDENCE—God put you in a certain position at a certain time to help you see and trust His plan for His glory! Caught in the northeaster, Paul and the ship's crew gave up all hope of being saved from the storm. It is in times like these that God uses your faith as a witness to all. (Acts 27:7-9, 14, 17-20, Romans 8:35-39, fn 8:35-39, Psalms 23, fn 23:4, Hebrews 11:35-40, fn 11:35-39, Psalms 139:1-16, fn 139:7, Matthew 10:28-31, fn 10:29-31) *How could your knowledge of Scripture prepare you for a situation like Paul's?*

GOD'S FAITHFULNESS—“God did not promise smooth sailing along the way. As we serve Christ, there will be storms, hardships, high seas, breakdowns—but also peace, assurance, fruitfulness, the sustaining presence of God.” Kent Hughes, *Acts*, page 333. (Acts 27:21-26, Matthew 14:22-33, fn 14:30, 31, John 14:18, 26, 27, fn 14:27, Hebrew 13:5, John 10:27-29, fn 10:28, 29) *How could your relationship with Jesus sustain you in a life or death struggle?*

GOD DELIVERANCE—“Paul's faith did not save him from the storm. His faith carried him through the storm. “We are often *objective*-oriented, but God is *process*-oriented. We just want to get to Rome, but God is even more interested in *how* we get there.” Hughes, page 338. (Acts 27:30-38, 42-44, II Corinthians 1:6-11, fn 1:6,7, fn 1:8-10[1st], fn 1:8-10[2nd], II Corinthians 11:23-12:10, fn 11:23-29) *How was God's grace shown in Acts 27?*

Pray for one another's needs.

Who in your group needs your encouragement by phone or personal attention?

