
Application Guide: Acts 27

☐ 1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

Choose one:

- a. Do you like storms or do they frighten you? What's the worst storm you've ever been in?

- b. Have you ever thought of becoming a "storm chaser?" Why/why not?

☐ 2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

Background: What's the deal with Paul? He isn't afraid of being rejected, beaten or executed. He doesn't seem to mind being arrested or losing his freedom. Now he seems completely okay with being shipwrecked and is confident no one will die in the catastrophe as they float around in the raging sea that has smashed their ship to pieces. Why do you think this is? Do you think Paul's attitude is due to his self-confidence, or his faith in God? Do you know of anyone with confidence/faith like this today?

In the past, Paul has testified that Jesus had spoken to him several times. Now, in verse 10, he says, "I believe" there is trouble ahead. Then, in verse 23, he stated that an angel of the God to whom he belonged told him not to be afraid because he would stand before Caesar. How many different ways do you think there are for God to speak to people? Which way would you most like God to speak to you?

Do you think God caused the storm that destroyed the ship? Why/why not?

Some people thought that Hurricane Katrina, which destroyed most of New Orleans a few years ago, was God punishing the people that lived there for being immoral. Do you think God causes natural disasters to punish bad people? Why/why not?

The Bible says that the end of the world and Jesus' second coming will be preceded by great natural disasters. Do you think these will be caused by God or Satan?

Think through the best and worst times of your life. How do you think God was involved in each of these times?

3. Applying the Chapter to Your Life (5-10 min)

Choose one or both:

- a. Find a copy of the classic poem, "Footsteps." Can you identify any times in your life when God carried you? Can you think of any times when you wished He had?
- b. How do you think a relationship with Jesus helps you through life? Do you think that giving your life to Jesus and spending time with Him should mean that he would protect you from all trouble? How do you relate to James 1:2-18?

4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)

- a. Do an online search for "natural disasters around the world" and choose specific situations to pray for.
- b. Pray for those who are enduring personal tragedy in your town. Look through your local newspaper and find some specific people to pray for.

5. Outreach Idea

Listen closely for prayer requests at your church this Sabbath or ask your pastor who in your congregation could use prayer. Get some friends together and think of ways you can help answer some of these prayers.