

# ACTS

## **The Lord of the Storm - Acts 27**

April 26th, 2015

### **OBSERVE & REFLECT**

*(This section is designed to encourage us to reflect on and observe the scripture and weekend sermon.)*

#### **READ Acts 27**

- ☀ Read the text at least twice. Try reading the text from two different translations.
- ☀ What do you observe in the text? What jumps out at you and grabs your attention? What questions do you have from the text? Pay attention to any action words or phrases and observe what the implications are.

### **INVESTIGATE & APPLY**

*(This section focuses on what the scripture has to say as we dig deeper into the Word. It is oriented to create discussion on the Scripture.)*

1. Read 27:1-12. The account of Paul's voyage to Rome is vivid with details. Make a list of statements in these early verses that indicate first hand experience.
2. Read 27:13-26. How does God give Paul encouragement during the voyage? How has God sustained you during tough times?
3. Compare Paul's predictions in v.10 and v.21-25. Does he contradict himself here? Have you ever experienced a trial which resulted from your refusal to take advice? How has God graciously eased and lightened these trials?
4. Compare the response to Paul's advice in v.10 and v.30-32? Why do they follow his leadership at the end but not the beginning? What does this teach us about leadership in general? How does Paul's leadership save everyone's life twice (v.31-32; v.42)?
5. What tension is there between Paul's prediction of v.22 and his command in v.31? How do these two statements show the unique view of Christianity with regards to the old "fate vs. free will" debate? Why is this so important for our daily living?

**"Never ask God for justice, you might get it. We tend to keep a record of all the times and places where we do not get the good outcomes we thought we deserved. But we don't keep a record of all the times God prevented us from receiving the bad outcomes we deserved."**

**-Tim Keller**

### **NEXT STEPS**

- What factors made Paul a great leader? Was Paul's leadership a title that he was given, or a level of influence that he earned? How can you grow to be more like Paul as a leader?
- Paul had great confidence in God, and many others were profoundly affected by it. What promises from God were the foundation for Paul's confidence? What promises from God give you great confidence to live and lead?