

SENT series
Week 10 outline
7.24.22
Acts 27

HOW A MESSAGE BECAME A MOVEMENT
The Goodness of God in the midst of the Greatest of Storms

I. The Story On the Surface (Acts 27:1-28:10)

- A. Scattered and Swamped (27:1-26)
- B. Shipwrecked and Spent (27:27 -38)
- C. Stranded and Suffering (27:39- 28:10)

II. The Story Beneath the Waves

- A. An Uncommon Favor
In the midst of Paul's great trial was the uncommon favor of a Roman centurion
- B. An Unordinary Promise
In the midst of Paul's great suffering was the unordinary promise of an angel
- C. An Unusual Kindness
In the midst of Paul's great uncertainty was the unusual kindness of the natives of Malta

PAUL SUFFERED THROUGH STORM,
SHIPWRECKED ONTO A BEACH,
WAS STRANDED ON AN ISLAND
AND YET STAYED ANCHORED TO THE GOODNESS OF GOD

III. The Story on the Waves

What Blinds Us From Experiencing the Goodness of God amid Life's great Storms?

- A. **Grudges:** Unforgiveness blinds us to God's hand of grace at work and keeps us chained to the wreckage of our past

"OUR UNFORGIVENESS DOES NOTHING TO PUNISH THE OFFENDER
AND CHAINS US TO THE OFFENSE"

- B. **Entitlement:** Untold expectations blinds us to God's provision and breeds dissatisfaction with our present circumstances

"OUR EXPECTATIONS CAN BE MEASURED BY OUR THANK YOU'S" -B.Morrell

- C. **Distraction:** The tyranny of the urgent and unimportant feeds our desire "to do", gives us a false sense of self-importance, and moves us from resting in God's plan for our future

"OUR HURRY HIDES OUR SIN" -M. Canlis

IV. The Story Above the Clouds (27:22-26)

How Do We Recognize God's Goodness Amid Storms, Suffering, and Uncertainty?

A. We Recognize Whose We Are

-*"whom I belong"*... Paul knew whose he was

1. -Acts 26:18: in Him we receive
 - a- receive forgiveness of sins
 - b- receive a place among those sanctified by faith
2. -John 1:12: "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God"
 - a. We have communion with the Father
 - fully known
 - fully loved
 - fully forgiven
 - b. We have community in His family
 - bearing witness to His faithfulness in all circumstances
 - bearing the loads of one another

B. We Recognize Whom We Serve

-*"whom I serve"*... Paul knew whose kingdom he was building

1. We are freed from a life of expectation and into a life of expectancy
2. It's not about what I deserve (thank God we don't get that); it's about what He's doing

C. We Recognize Who We Are

-*"for I have faith in God"*... Paul knew his Identity was fully in Christ

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." -Gal 2:20

- Jesus' death means our acceptance despite the storms
- Jesus' resurrection gives us hope in the midst of suffering
- Jesus' love motivates our lives of faith regardless of circumstances

*"Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.
For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame,
and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God".*

-Hebrews 12:2