



**KNOCKED DOWN BY
STORMS**
August 7, 2016

“In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” – John 16:33

SLAMMED BY THE STORMS OF CRISIS

But soon a tempestuous wind, called the northeaster, struck down from the land... – Acts 27:14

- **A LOSS OF CONTROL-** verse 15
- **A LOSS OF ENERGY-** verse 16
- **A LOSS OF SECURITY-** verse 17-18
- **A LOSS OF POSSESSIONS-** verse 18-19
- **A LOSS OF DIRECTION-** verse 20
- **A LOSS OF HOPE-** verse 20

STABILITY IN THE STORM...

I. THE ANCHOR OF GOD’S PRESENCE

Paul stood up among them and said, “Men, you should have listened to me and not have set sail from Crete and incurred this injury and loss. ²²Yet now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. ²³For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God... – Acts 27:21-23

*The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.
– Psalms 34:18*

2. THE ANCHOR OF GOD'S PROPERTY

...to whom I belong and whom I worship... – Acts 27:23

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. – Romans 8:16-17

3. THE ANCHOR OF GOD'S PURPOSE

“Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.” – Acts 27:24

“But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ¹⁴And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” – Matt 24:13-14

FOLLOWING JESUS THROUGH THE STORM...

And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. – Mark 4:39

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. – Hebrews 12:3

I WILL GET BACK UP BY...

- Memorizing [John 16:33](#).
- Recognizing that God is bigger than the storms in my life.
- Following Jesus through the crises in my life, no matter what.
- Giving my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

WALK THE TALK

A Growth Group Guide

1. Do you have any good stories of dramatic thunderstorms or blizzards? Share about the experience.
2. Share about a time when you were slammed by the storm of crisis. In which area of loss, listed above, did your storm hit you?
3. Do you feel like we can learn and grow from bad circumstances? What makes the difference between "going through it" and "growing through it"?
4. Interact with this question: If God is a good God who wants good things for His children, why does the Bible teach that He is closer to us in bad circumstances?
5. Have you had a storm in your life that led directly to God's purpose being fulfilled in your life or someone else's life? Share about the experience.