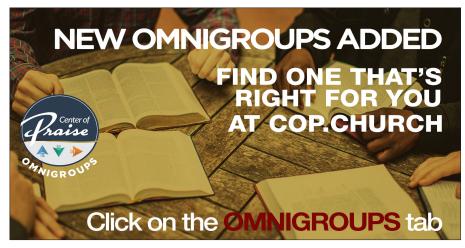




The Story Continues...



**WEDNESDAYS** 12Noon & 7pm at the Cathedral **THURSDAYS** 12Noon at the Power Center







The Story Continues...

SERIES

## **WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS**

SATURDAYS 5PM SUNDAYS 8:30AM / 10:30AM / 12:30PM

## **MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDIES**

WEDNESDAYS 12NOON AND 7PM AT THE CATHEDRAL THURSDAYS 12NOON AT THE POWER CENTER

## CENTERED LIFE

TV BROADCASTS

WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS AT 8PM
COMCAST CHANNEL 20 /SUREWEST CHANNEL 19

#### THE CATHEDRAL

2223 Capitol Avenue Sacramento, CA 95816

#### THE POWER CENTER

10455 Investment Circle Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

### PAMELA B. TRIPETTE BLDG

Children and Youth Complex

#### **MAILING ADDRESS**

Administration Office 2150 Capitol Avenue Sacramento, CA 95816

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# WEEK 14: SHIPWRECKS, SNAKEBITES & MIRACLES

Acts 27 - 28

November 11-12, 2017 Pastor Joseph S. Sissac

## **NO SMALL STORM**

The journey to Rome was treacherous almost from start to finish. There were severe, life-threatening weather **conditions** that Paul thought would certainly result in the loss of life. But once again, Paul was exactly where the Lord wanted him. One would think that after everything Paul had been through, the Lord would have **calmed** the wind and waves and provided a safe scenic voyage. Not the case.

In our own lives we may also expect that we're "due for my blessing" in the <u>present</u> because we've endured so much in the <u>past</u>. While it may be true that God has a blessing in store, the journey may feel quite the contrary.

## **3 LESSONS FROM 2,344 MILES**

- 1. One of the most important lessons we can learn from Paul's experience is that the Holy Spirit never abandons ship. Your ACTivation session doesn't **TIMEOUT** in tough times! In verses 22-25 Paul told the crew and passengers, after losing hope, to "keep up your courage" because God had spoken and all would survive.
- 2. Arriving at Malta was no doubt a much needed relief from the turmoil and chaos of the sea and storm. While resting and warming, Paul was bitten by a poisonous snake. Paul didn't panic, but instead, "he shook the creature off... and suffered no harm." (Ac. 28:5).

Because of the ACTivation of the Holy Spirit, Paul's **expectation** and **experience** was unlike anyone else's.

3. God-given, Spirit-ACTivated journeys are often multifaceted and include God-ordained <u>detours</u>. Paul knew that they "must run aground on a certain island." (Ac. 27:26). It was there on the island of Malta, a stop not on the itinerary, that "the people on the island who had diseases were coming to him [Paul] and getting cured." (Ac. 28:8-9). This demonstrates that God can and often does change our course and <u>extend</u> our stay to witness and serve others for His glory.

#### **FactorPoints**

**He's Here - WORSHIP** the Lord for His omnipresence and faithfulness. He's worthy of our worship before, after and during life's storms.

**He Knows - LEARN** of how Paul listened to the Lord through prayer in every circumstance.

**He's Able - SERVE** the Lord by living with an expectation of preservation and power in the face of all adversity.

#### **WEEK 14 READING: ACTS 27-28**

Fill in notes also available on the COP mobile app or @COP.church

