



Bible study for the week starting May 21, 2023

SHARE

Have you ever had a terrible, horrible, rotten, no good, very bad day? Maybe you've experienced a season of life where things seemed to go from bad to worse...Or experienced a day you couldn't catch a break...going from one bad thing to the next? If you are comfortable. Please share. How did you make it through that season? Did you ever ask God why? Did he give you an answer?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. **Read ACTS 28:1-3** After a shipwreck on a strange island, Paul attempts to help by assisting with the gathering of sticks for a fire...what unfortunate thing happened?
 - a. *What do **you do** when bad things happen?*
2. **Read ACTS 28:4** How did the people of Malta interpret this bad thing (snake bite)?
 - a. This "cause and effect" world view still persists today in ideas like *Karma*. What are your thoughts on Karma? How does the bible view Karma?
 - b. Example: **Read Luke 13:1-5** How does Jesus explain it?
 - c. **Read Galatians 6:7-9** How is "reap what you sow" different than Karma?
3. **Read ACTS 28:5-6** WELL THAT ESCALATED QUICKLY. From thinking he was a murderer...to thinking he was a god. Is your faith fickle or firm? How have your circumstances impacted your faith?
4. **Read ACTS 28:7-10** Then Paul healed the leader's father...and quickly the rest of the island. I guess God had a way that he wanted to use that shipwreck and snakebite to actually bless people.
 - a. When has God used your shipwrecks and the snakebites to bless others?

PRAY

Pray for a faith that is stronger than circumstance. And pray that whatever shipwreck or snakebite you have gone through to be an opportunity to bless others.



Why did it have to be _____? : Acts 28:1-10

May 21, 2023: Pastor Ben Schrank

“Some island” in the last chapter has a [NAME](#) in this chapter.

Proverbs 16:9 “The heart of man plans his way, but the [LORD](#) establishes his steps.”

Proverbs 19: 21 “Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the [LORD](#)’s purpose that prevails.”

Why did it have to be [SNAKES](#)?

Two views of Justice:

World: You get what you [DESERVE](#).

God: [JESUS](#) took what you deserved.

“God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his [DIVINE JUSTICE](#), because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished” Romans 3:25

Understanding God’s Divine justice for yourself leads to an [UNPHASED](#) faith.

Understanding God’s Divine justice for others leads to looking for [DIVINE APPOINTMENTS](#) in the detours.

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for [GOOD](#) to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. Genesis 50:20

For Next Sunday read Acts 28:11-31