

An Acts  
Series

# CHURCH ON THE MOVE

“The blood of the martyrs is the  
seed of the church”

Tertullian

<sup>40</sup>and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

<sup>41</sup>Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were

Acts 5:40-41

counted worthy to suffer dishonor  
for the name.

Acts 5:40-41



<sup>21</sup>When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, <sup>22</sup>strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to

Acts 14:21-22

continue in the faith, and saying  
that through many tribulations we  
must enter the kingdom of God.

Acts 14:21-22

<sup>1</sup>And when it was decided that we should sail for Italy, they delivered Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan Cohort named Julius. <sup>2</sup>And embarking in a ship of Adramyttium, which was

Acts 27:1-44

about to sail to the ports along the coast of Asia, we put to sea, accompanied by Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica.

<sup>3</sup>The next day we put in at Sidon. And Julius treated Paul kindly and

Acts 27:1-44

gave him leave to go to his friends  
and be cared for. <sup>4</sup>And putting out  
to sea from there we sailed under  
the lee of Cyprus, because the  
winds were against us. <sup>5</sup>And when  
we had sailed across the open sea

Acts 27:1-44

along the coast of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra in Lycia. <sup>6</sup>There the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing for Italy and put us on board. <sup>7</sup>We sailed slowly for a number of days and

Acts 27:1-44

arrived with difficulty off Cnidus,  
and as the wind did not allow us to  
go farther, we sailed under the lee  
of Crete off Salmone. <sup>8</sup>Coasting  
along it with difficulty, we came to a  
place called Fair Havens, near

Acts 27:1-44

which was the city of Lasea.

<sup>9</sup>Since much time had passed, and the voyage was now dangerous because even the Fast was already over, Paul advised them, <sup>10</sup>saying, “Sirs, I perceive that the voyage will

Acts 27:1-44



be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives.”<sup>11</sup> But the centurion paid more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship than to what Paul said.<sup>12</sup> And

Acts 27:1-44

because the harbor was not  
suitable to spend the winter in, the  
majority decided to put out to sea  
from there, on the chance that  
somehow they could reach  
Phoenix, a harbor of Crete, facing  
Acts 27:1-44

both southwest and northwest, and  
spend the winter there.

<sup>13</sup>Now when the south wind blew  
gently, supposing that they had  
obtained their purpose, they

Acts 27:1-44

weighed anchor and sailed along  
Crete, close to the shore. <sup>14</sup>But  
soon a tempestuous wind, called  
the northeaster, struck down from  
the land. <sup>15</sup>And when the ship was  
caught and could not face the wind,

Acts 27:1-44

we gave way to it and were driven along. <sup>16</sup>Running under the lee of a small island called Cauda, we managed with difficulty to secure the ship's boat. <sup>17</sup>After hoisting it up, they used supports to undergird

Acts 27:1-44

the ship. Then, fearing that they would run aground on the Syrtis, they lowered the gear, and thus they were driven along.<sup>18</sup> Since we were violently storm-tossed, they began the next day to jettison the

Acts 27:1-44

cargo.<sup>19</sup> And on the third day they  
threw the ship's tackle overboard  
with their own hands.<sup>20</sup> When  
neither sun nor stars appeared for  
many days, and no small tempest  
lay on us, all hope of our being

Acts 27:1-44

saved was at last abandoned.

<sup>21</sup>Since they had been without food for a long time, Paul stood up among them and said, “Men, you should have listened to me and not have set sail from Crete and

Acts 27:1-44



incurred this injury and loss. <sup>22</sup>Yet now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. <sup>23</sup>For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong

Acts 27:1-44

and whom I worship,<sup>24</sup> and he said,  
‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must  
stand before Caesar. And behold,  
God has granted you all those who  
sail with you.’<sup>25</sup> So take heart, men,  
for I have faith in God that it will be

Acts 27:1-44

exactly as I have been told.<sup>26</sup> But we must run aground on some island.”

<sup>27</sup>When the fourteenth night had come, as we were being driven across the Adriatic Sea, about

Acts 27:1-44

midnight the sailors suspected that they were nearing land.<sup>28</sup> So they took a sounding and found twenty fathoms. A little farther on they took a sounding again and found fifteen fathoms.<sup>29</sup> And fearing that we

Acts 27:1-44

might run on the rocks, they let down four anchors from the stern and prayed for day to come.<sup>30</sup> And as the sailors were seeking to escape from the ship, and had lowered the ship's boat into the sea

Acts 27:1-44

under pretense of laying out anchors from the bow,<sup>31</sup> Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, “Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved.”<sup>32</sup> Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the

Acts 27:1-44

ship's boat and let it go.

<sup>33</sup>As day was about to dawn, Paul urged them all to take some food, saying, "Today is the fourteenth day that you have continued in suspense and without food, having

Acts 27:1-44

taken nothing. <sup>34</sup>Therefore I urge you to take some food. For it will give you strength, for not a hair is to perish from the head of any of you.”

<sup>35</sup>And when he had said these things, he took bread, and giving

Acts 27:1-44



thanks to God in the presence of all  
he broke it and began to eat.<sup>36</sup> Then  
they all were encouraged and ate  
some food themselves.<sup>37</sup> (We were  
in all 276 persons in the ship.)<sup>38</sup> And  
when they had eaten enough, they

Acts 27:1-44

planned if possible to run the ship ashore.<sup>40</sup> So they cast off the anchors and left them in the sea, at the same time loosening the ropes that tied the rudders. Then hoisting the foresail to the wind they made

Acts 27:1-44

for the beach. <sup>41</sup>But striking a reef,  
they ran the vessel aground. The  
bow stuck and remained  
immovable, and the stern was  
being broken up by the surf. <sup>42</sup>The  
soldiers' plan was to kill the

Acts 27:1-44

prisoners, lest any should swim  
away and escape.<sup>43</sup> But the  
centurion, wishing to save Paul,  
kept them from carrying out their  
plan. He ordered those who could  
swim to jump overboard first and  
Acts 27:1-44

make for the land,<sup>44</sup> and the rest on planks or on pieces of the ship. And so it was that all were brought safely to land.

Acts 27:1-44

**Take Home Thought:  
Storms Create Steadfast Christians**

# Steadfast in the Storm

1. Know God's presence
2. Know your identity
3. Know your purpose
4. Know God's promises

<sup>21</sup>Since they had been without food for a long time, 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.”<sup>22</sup>Yet

Acts 27:21-25



now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. <sup>23</sup>For this very night there stood before me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship, <sup>24</sup>and he said,  
Acts 27:21-25

‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.’<sup>25</sup> So take heart, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told.

Acts 27:21-25

1. Know God's presence

## 2. Know your identity

<sup>20</sup>As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.

Genesis 50:20

<sup>28</sup>And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28



3. Know your purpose



4. Know God's promises

<sup>8</sup>For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. <sup>9</sup>Indeed, we felt that we

2 Corinthians 1:8-10

had received the sentence of death.  
But that was to make us rely not on  
ourselves but on God who raises  
the dead. <sup>10</sup>He delivered us from  
such a deadly peril, and he will  
deliver us. On him we have set our

2 Corinthians 1:8-10

hope that he will deliver us again.

2 Corinthians 1:8-10

How do you view storms?

<sup>10</sup>saying, “Sirs, I perceive that the voyage will be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives.” <sup>11</sup>But the centurion paid more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship

Acts 27:10-11

than to what Paul said.

Acts 27:10-11

<sup>30</sup>And as the sailors were **seeking to escape** from the ship, and had lowered the ship's boat into the sea under pretense of laying out anchors from the bow, <sup>31</sup>Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers,  
Acts 27:30-31



“Unless these men **stay in the ship**,  
you cannot be saved.”

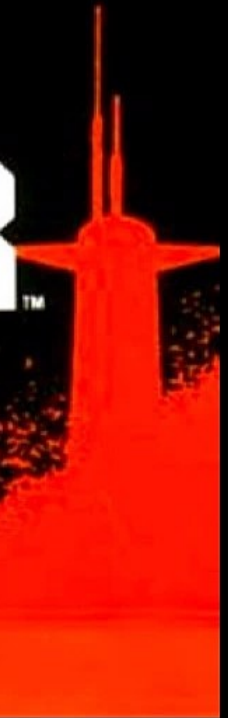
Acts 27:30-31



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**THE  
HUNT  
FOR  
RED  
OCTOBER**

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<sup>2</sup>Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup>for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup>And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and

James 1:2-4

complete, lacking in nothing.

James 1:2-4

<sup>3</sup>Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,<sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,<sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame,  
Romans 5:3-5

because God's love has been  
poured into our hearts through the  
Holy Spirit who has been given to  
us.

Romans 5:3-5

<sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though

1 Peter 1:7-9

you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,<sup>9</sup> obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation

1 Peter 1:7-9



of your souls.

1 Peter 1:7-9

**Application:**  
**Stay in the ship/Embrace suffering**

# Church on the Move

1. Spirit Lead
2. Community
3. Prayer
4. Evangelism

5. Hospitality
6. Worship
7. Generosity
8. Service

