

ACTS EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, May 5, 2024 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 53 | Riding Out the Storm Acts 27:1-44

Life's storms come for many **REASONS**

- 1. **natural, broken world** Rom. 8:22-23
- 2. **my sin/choices** Jonah
- 3. **God's development** Mark 4:35-41
- 4. **other people's sin/choices** Genesis 37-50; 50:20

and when they hit, where I drop **ANCHOR**

myself and/or others Proverbs 3:5-6; 1 Corinthians 15:33; Proverbs 12:15

 **God: his presence, ownership, promise** Acts 27:23-25; Psalm 119:94; Joshua 1:5-9; Matt. 28:20; Isaiah 41:10

will determine how I **MAKE IT THROUGH.**

destruction, devastation, death Psalm 1:4-6; Psalm 145:20

 **preservation, transformation, life** Romans 8:28ff; Philippians 3:21; 1 John 3:2; Psalm 1:1-3

 Text us at **833-271-8805**

Text "**HELPER**" to get a 7-day series of devotionals on how the Holy Spirit helps you!

You can also text this number anytime **for prayer**. Just say, "Pray for..." followed by your request.

Or if you just need **someone to talk to**, start texting us with whatever's going on and someone will be in touch via text.

ABOUT WAWASEE

OUR MISSION

We are sent

to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.

OUR VALUES

These are things you'll see to be true about us...



1. It's All About Jesus!
You'll hear us say this often.—Why? Because *it's all about Jesus!* Apart from his death, burial, and resurrection we're wasting our time.



2. God Wrote it All Down
God wrote a book—and we are to believe the Bible in all that it teaches, obey it in all it requires, and trust it in all that it promises.



3. All People Matter
No matter who you are, where you're from, what you've done, or what's been done to you—you *matter to Jesus and you matter to us!*



4. We All Need Friends
You were designed to belong, not to go through life alone. Jesus created each of us desiring friendship and to live in community.



5. No Sacred Cows
Jesus is sacred, God's Word is sacred, *but our opinions, methods, and traditions are not*—we'll let go of any of them if more people can experience life change through the Gospel!

YOUR PATHWAY

If you call Wawasee Bible "home", we challenge you to pursue three things:



1. Gather

Show up *regularly* and gather with us for worship.



2. Grow

Don't just show up, *grow up* spiritually and connect in a growth ministry like Life Groups.



3. Go!

Go give and serve somewhere. Contribute as much *or more than* you consume!



Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

What is this? — Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

Welcome to Life Group!

Getting to Know You

Part of our goal at Life Group is just learning more about each other. Toward that end, here's some random questions to break the ice as you get going.

1. If you had to describe how you're feeling right now as an amusement park ride, what ride are you on?
2. What's the weirdest thing in your fridge right now?

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, *was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?*

Digging Deeper

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week.

Note: One of the anchors Paul held on to in the storm of Acts 27 was God's presence. In this week's study questions, we are going to focus in on practicing the presence of God and what it means to have a relationship with him.

1. For many of us, the idea of the presence of God is hard to connect with on a daily basis. We may think it is something we only experience at church or that it is reserved for feelers or charismatic believers. Yet, Scripture tells us every believer has the Spirit of God dwelling inside of them. As you read the verses below, what words or phrases stand out about what it means to have the presence of God with you?

²⁰ 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. **GALATIANS 2:20** (NIV)

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—
¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. **JOHN 14:16-17** (NIV)

¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith... **EPHESIANS 3:16-17** (NIV)

- Think for a moment about the differences between driving in the car with a friend versus by yourself. How is that experience different with another person present? How might knowing God's presence lives in us at all times change a person's experience of something?
- In *The Practice of the Presence of God*, 17th-century monk Brother Lawrence talks about being aware of God's presence daily by turning our attention toward him in thought and prayer. How would you describe what practicing the presence of God looks like in your life?

(Study Guide continues on back panel...)

We are sent to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.

Welcome to Wawasee!

OUR OUTCOMES

This is who we hope you grow to *become* at Wawasee Bible...

If I'm truly growing as a follower of Jesus, I should be growing in the ways that I am...



1 | Receiving From God.

Am I reading the Word regularly? When am I gathering to hear the Word taught? What fruit of the Spirit do I see growing in my life?



2 | Responding To God.

How am I talking to and listening to God regularly? What are some healthy spiritual habits I'm working on (things like giving, scripture memory, repentance, rest, etc.)?



3 | Receiving From Others.

Where and how am I in community/friendship with other Christians in our church who have a window to speak into my life?



4 | Moving Toward Others.

How and where am I contributing to and initiating community with other Christians in our church? (Or am I only consuming?)



5 | Going to those Far from God.

How am I regularly going toward those who are far from God—loving them, sharing God's Story and my own story? When was the last time I shared God's story and/or my faith story? Who is on my PEARL list?

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find for Acts 27:21-25 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

21 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**. 22 Yet now I **urge** you to **take heart**, for **there** will be no **loss** of **life** among you, but **only** of the **ship**. 23 For this **very night** there **stood** before me an **angel** of the God to whom I **belong** and whom I **worship**, 24 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.' 25 So **take heart**, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have **been** told.

T L O S S A I D K K R E
I I N C T B U O I A A O
M U L C A E S A R V N F
E P Y K N L I F E E G T
S A I L D O T H E R E V
H U D B I N J U R Y L K
I L L O N G A F R A I D
P N E W O R S H I P S R
O I B S I A R C R E T E
U G E P I N C U R R E D
R H E A R T A K E R N V
G T N J B E H O L D E U
E F F O O D S T O O D G

life groups Study Guide (continued)

- Can you think of any distractions or obstacles that make it difficult for us to remember God's presence is with us?
 - Make a list of any practical ways a person can remember to turn their attention toward God throughout their day.
2. Many Christians tend to struggle with how to build a relationship with God. An important part of building and continuing any relationship is conversation. So, it makes sense that knowing and being with God involves talking with him. Praying, or talking to God, is something Paul instructed believers about repeatedly. How do these verses speak to engaging in dialogue with God?
- ¹⁶ Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. **ROMANS 12:12** (NIV)
- ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. **1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18** (NIV)
- ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. **PHILIPPIANS 4:6** (NIV)
- ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. **EPHESIANS 6:18** (NIV)

- What do you think it means (or doesn't mean) to pray continually, without ceasing and on all occasions as Paul talks about in the verses?
- What are three things you talk to God about most frequently?
- Looking at the three things you wrote, do they tend to involve:
 - thanking God? asking God for something you need or desire?
 - confessing or repenting? seeking wisdom for a decision?
 - asking God about something you want to learn or grow in?
 - listening? other: _____
- From the list above, is there an aspect of prayer you would like to focus on more when talking to God?

Close

1. Looking back on this week's sermon and study, what's most important for you to remember?
2. Are there any simple ways you want to remember to practice the presence of God more in your life?
3. Is there a conversation with God you want to have this week?.

This week's Study Guide is adapted from a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

Wawasee Community Bible Church

2035 East 1300 North | Milford, Indiana 46542 | 574-658-9161 | wawaseebible.com

ACTS

EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

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PART 53

Riding Out the Storm

ACTS 27:1-44



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Scan QR code for our Digital Announcements & Connect Card.

<https://wawasee.today>