

## Part 55 | **God's Story Keeps Going**

Acts 28:11-31



### Despite **OBSTACLES**


- physical
- circumstantial
- financial
- spiritual
- other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Paul (and his ministry) **FLOURISHED!**

**his story < God's story** Acts 20:24; 26:16-18; Galatians 1:15-16; Philippians 3:7-8**his plans < God's plans** Romans 15:23-24; Acts 18:21; 19:21

### God's work isn't hindered by *our* **LIMITATIONS.**

 **God opens hearts** Acts 16:14; 1 Corinthians 2:10-14; Psalm 119:18; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Ephesians 1:17-18 **we open our mouths** Acts 1:8; Romans 10:14; 1 Peter 3:15; Colossians 4:3-4; 2 Timothy 4:2

 Need to register your kids for VBS (July 29 to August 1, 6-8pm)?  
Text **"VBS"** to **833-271-8805**, then follow the link.  
You can also text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, **"Pray for..."** followed by your request.

# Gospel Conversations

Part of our **Enduring Reach** vision is:*By 2030 the people of Wawasee Bible will engage in 10,000 Gospel Conversations*

### Types of "Gospel Conversations"

Any *intentional* conversation with someone you hope to meet Jesus counts as a Gospel Conversation. As you count your conversations, try to categorize them as to what "level" of a conversation it is.*NOTE, there is **not** a "right" or "wrong" here, it's just a tool to help you gradually move toward level 5 conversations with those far from God, with hopes that they might meet Jesus.*

### Categories of Gospel Conversations:

- 1 Connecting** (News/Weather/Sports)  
These are casual "connecting" conversations. We all have them every day, multiple times, even with those we're closest to.
- 2 Personal** (Personal Details, Family, etc.)  
Personal conversations go further to reveal or disclose something from each other's personal lives. Family, vocation, frustrations, personal joys, interests, etc.
- 3 Their Story**  
Here you learn something of their *spiritual* background, knowledge, interest, etc.
- 4 My Story**  
Sharing part or all of your faith story.
- 5 God's Story**  
Sharing part or all of the Gospel with them, Jesus's work, our response, etc.

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

# Food for Thought

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

**What is this?** – Normally this section includes questions and a study for our Life Groups. If you're not in one, you should sign up in the Commons, let us know on a Connect Card, or contact the church office! Most groups break for the summer, but others will continue and use this for their study time together. Instead of our normal study guide, this is a smaller study and some questions for you to reflect/journal on throughout the week. Look for sign-ups for new groups in August!

### Food for Thought...

**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?*

1. A powerful way of sharing your testimony or your "story" is by talking about what God has done in your life. As you read through **Titus 3:3-8**, write down anything that could be used to help someone understand how God works in their life when they ask Him to. (Most believe this letter was written to Titus—a pastor on the island of Crete—by Paul while he was imprisoned in Rome.)

- **Circle** or **highlight** any words or phrases that catch your attention.
- **Underline** what you think is important to remember.
- **Put an X** next to anything that confuses you.

<sup>3</sup> For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. <sup>4</sup> But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. <sup>8</sup> The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.

**TITUS 3:3-8 (ESV)***(Food for Thought continues on back panel...)*

# 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 28:24-27 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

<sup>24</sup> And **some** were **convinced** by what he **said**, but **others** **disbelieved**. <sup>25</sup>

And **disagreeing** among themselves, they **departed** after **Paul** had **made** one **statement**: "The **Holy Spirit** was **right** in saying to your **fathers** through **Isaiah** the **prophet**: <sup>26</sup> "Go to this **people**, and say, "You

will **indeed** **hear** but **never** **understand**, and you will **indeed** see but **never** **perceive**." <sup>27</sup> For this **people's** **heart** has **grown** **dull**, and with their **ears** they can **barely** **hear**, and their **eyes** they have **closed**; **lest** they should see with their **eyes** and **hear** with their **ears** and **understand** with their **heart** and **turn**, and I would **heal** them."

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

## life groups Study Guide (continued)

- Have you ever taken time to write out your story?
- Back in **Acts 26**, we find Paul essentially sharing his testimony with King Agrippa. As you go back and read through Paul's story in this chapter, watch for the four elements of a testimony: 1) who I was before Jesus, 2) what happened when Jesus found me, 3) who I am now, 4) my hope of where I'm going (where God is taking me)..

If you read this story out loud, it will take you about three minutes. Paul is able to communicate a lot in that short amount of time. It's often suggested you try condensing your story to three minutes, which will require you to think about what to include and what to leave out. Should you have more than three minutes to share your story, you can always expand it by adding more details.

As a first step toward writing out your story, jot down a few thoughts under each of the elements mentioned above..

- Who I was before I met Jesus:
- What happened when Jesus found me:
- Who I am now:
- My hope of where I am going (where God is taking me):

**NOTE:** You can find some helps at [wawaseebible.com/pearl](http://wawaseebible.com/pearl) and download the "Revealing Your Story Tool" (aka "The 2nd Greatest Story").

This week's Food for Thought is adapted in part 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](http://wawaseebible.com/beliefs). Learn more about the EFCA at [efca.org](http://efca.org).

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# ACTS

## EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, May 26, 2024



PART 55

God's Story Keeps Going



ACTS 28:11-31



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Scan QR code for our Digital Announcements & Connect Card.

<https://wawasee.today>