



# Surviving the Storm

ACTS 27:14-27  
JUNE 1 & 2, 2013 • MARK SPURLOCK

Before very long, a wind of hurricane force, called the Northeaster, **swept down** from the island. The ship was **caught** by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along. *Acts 27:14-15*

## 4 Questions to Ask in the Storm...

1. \_\_\_\_\_ ?

As we passed to the lee of a small island called Cauda, we were hardly able to make the lifeboat secure, so the men hoisted it aboard. Then they passed ropes under the ship itself to hold it together. Because they were afraid they would run aground on the sandbars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along. *Acts 27:16-17*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ ?

We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. *Acts 27:18-19*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ ?

When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved. *Acts 27:20*

4. \_\_\_\_\_ ?

After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss. But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me and said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and **God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.** So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that **it will happen just as he told me.** Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island.'" *Acts 27:21-26*

•With God, \_\_\_\_\_ !

My comfort in my suffering is this: Your **promise** preserves my life. *Psalms 119:50*

Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. *Hebrews 10:23*



## Join us for each message in An Unexpected Journey!

May 25–26 Sailing Into Uncertainty — Acts 27:1–13

June 1–2 Surviving the Storm — Acts 27:14–26

**NEXT WEEKEND** June 8–9 When You Find Yourself Adrift — Acts 27:27–44

June 15–16 Pressing On Toward the Finish — Acts 28:1–16

## Daily Meditations

### Monday

Please read Acts 27:14–26. If your current life was a weather report, how would you describe it?

What did you learn about surviving life's storms in last weekend's message? How do you tend to try and survive life's storms?

*Thank God today that He is with you in each and every storm in life. Ask God to help you learn to face life's storms trusting in Him. Pray about any storms you're currently facing. Ask God to use the storm to draw you closer to Him.*

### Tuesday

Please read Acts 27:16–17, 2 Corinthians 4:16–18 & Ephesians 6:10–17. For the next four days we're going to focus on the four questions to ask in a storm. Today we're going to focus on the question: What can I do?

According to these verses, what positive steps did the men take?

What do today's verses tell you about things you can "do" in a storm? How can you apply those things to the storm you're currently facing?

*Thank God today for the positive things He's given you to do during life's storms. Ask Him to help you build into your life the positive things you learned about today. Pray that you'll be an encouragement to those in your life who are going through storms.*

### Wednesday

Please read Acts 27:18–19, Ephesians 4:29–31 & Hebrews 12:1–3. Today's question is: What can I do without?

continued 

Think about the storm you're currently facing. What things do you need to "throw overboard"? (If you're not sure, use the Ephesians and Hebrews passage as a starting point.)

What things are you struggling to throw overboard? Why is that?

*Thank God today for the opportunity to study the Bible. Talk to God about whatever sacrifices or tough choices you need to make. Pray He will give you the power to trust Him more than the things or expectations you may be clinging to.*

### Thursday

Please read Isaiah 50:10–11, Matthew 7:24–27 & Acts 27:20. What do you learn in these verses about the importance of what/who you count on in life's storms (and really all the time!)?

What or who do you rely on instinctively?

How does the focus of your trust in a storm impact your experience in the storm?

*Thank God today that His is completely trustworthy. Talk to Him about whatever struggles you may have trusting Him in the storms of life (and in daily life). Ask Him to give you peace as you go through this day along with the ability to recognize His presence with you.*

### Friday

Please read Acts 27:21–16, Galatians 6:9, Ephesians 1:4–7, 2:8–9 & 2 Peter 3:8–9. According to these verses, what can you really count on in life?

How has this affected your perspective on life?

*Thank God today that your salvation in Him is absolutely secure and guaranteed by Him! Pray that you will grow in counting on that truth and that it will impact your life. Pray that your life and trust in God will be an encouragement and example to those around you.*

### Saturday

Please read Psalm 119:50 and Hebrews 10:23. How have you discovered the truth that what God promises, stays promised? How does that help and encourage you?

*Thank God today for the security of His promises. Pray that you will recall His promises at just the right moment! Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that as we continue studying this passage of the Bible people will be encouraged and will grow in their faith.*



Memory Verse

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.  
*Hebrews 10:23*