

Small Group Questions | June 4th, 2017

Serving a Movement: Pentecost Sunday: Movement and Its Promise (Acts 28:1-16, 30-31)

Sermon Recap: Rich delivered a message on the end of Acts and Paul's journey to Rome. Amidst yet another storm at sea, Paul reveals a paradox of movement: that (1) God is in control yet at the same time (2) our actions have consequences in his redemptive work. Rich said we can glean 3 ways to live in this paradox; (1) serve others sacrificially, (2) speak boldly God's word, and (3) surrender completely to His purposes.

Hook: *These questions can help introduce the topic.*

1. Paul ran into a *whole lot* of obstacles and setbacks in his ministry. Most might wonder if he should have thrown in the towel, but why do you suppose he persevered? How does his motivation compare those offered in the world?

Look: *Read the sermon passage. Answer the following textual questions.*

2. How long does Luke say Paul is shadowed by a guard (possibly chained to)? What must this have been like?
3. In Acts 27:13-38, what kind of words does Paul speak to the men with him? What is the message?
4. How does Paul arrive in Rome? What does he do when he gets there? How do you see him "living in the paradox"?

Took: *Applying the message to our lives.*

5. Where do you find paradox of movement true in your own life?
6. When life is challenging, especially when we get hurt while doing good, we often become bitter or timid. How have you dealt with the hurts you've experienced in your faith journey? How would Paul counsel you?
7. How is God calling you, even now, to serve sacrificially? Speak his Word boldly?
8. Are you surrendered completely? If not, what is holding you back?

Prayer/Verse: "He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance." – Acts 28:30-31

*This marks the end of weekly sermon questions until the Fall Chapel wide study in September. Groups meeting through the summer are encouraged to use the Summer Bible Study: Minor Prophets devotional.