



Why should we praise Jesus? We should praise Jesus for what He has done to provide our salvation and because He will one day make all things right.

Week 31: March 9, 2025

Bible Story Point: Paul trusted God to keep His promise to rescue him from the storm.

Key Passage: Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago. (Isaiah 25:1)

Sunday Night: (Preschool & Children)

Paul went to Rome (Acts 27—28)

In today's passage, we read of the troublesome conditions Paul and his shipmates experienced on their way to Rome. From troubles with the weather and waters to issues with others aboard the ship, the men's hope of survival was fading quickly. Even still, Paul believed in God's promise to keep him safe on his mission to proclaim the gospel in that great city.

What lessons about perseverance can we glean from this passage? How does God reveal His faithfulness to His people throughout their time aboard this dangerous ship?

So much seemed to be working against Paul in these passages. To begin with, the purpose of this trip was to appeal to the highest powers in the Roman courts against his unfair arrest and condemnation from the Jewish elite. It was in these dire circumstances that God revealed he would safely arrive to proclaim the gospel there. However, the esteemed apostle and his shipmates were not met with smooth sailing.

They battled terrible conditions from all sides—stormy winds that wouldn't cooperate, brutal winter weather that wouldn't let up, an inability to eat for days on end, and no means of securing direction from the sun or stars. Some of the sailors had even plotted an escape from this dire situation at hand, hopelessly believing they could not be saved from their circumstances.

Through it all, Paul took on a leadership role on the ship, giving advice as to how they could avoid great loss by not going forward from Crete as planned. Although the men didn't listen, Paul was later able to give other encouragement to his peers, sharing with them the words that an angel had spoken to him: "Don't be afraid." Paul trusted in His Savior Jesus to continue the work and mission He had begun in the apostle's life and knew that God could be trusted.

Consider all the things working against Paul in just this chapter alone. Then, reflect on the God who had revealed His great plans for the apostle. Pray for God to grant the same miraculous gift of faith to you and to your group as you relay this incredible story of God's faithfulness, no matter the storm.

- How did Paul go to Rome? By Boat
- What did they encounter while on the boat? A bad storm
- What did the angel tell Paul? Take Courage all will be safe
- Did something happen while he was on the boat? The ship ran a ground
- Why did Paul seem confident while traveling on the boat? An angel told him they would be safe & Paul had Faith
- Can you trust God when you encounter storms in your life?
- How will you reveal your faith to others during a storm?

Practice: Say (Memorize) Key passage

Pray: Thank God for guiding you through storms. Ask God to strengthen your faith daily.

Wednesday Night Awana Clubs: Verses for March 19 (No Wednesday Night Activities during Spring Break)

Cubbies: Bear Hug 21- 1 Cor 15:3-4 "...Christ died for our sins...He was buried...He was raised on the third day."

Sparks:

Hang Gliders, Green Jewel 3.3 – John 3:14 (part 2), so must the Son of man be lifted up.

Wing Runners, Green Jewel 3:2 & 3.3 – Minor Prophets; Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

Sky Stormer, Green Jewel 3:3 – 2 Timothy 3:15, ...from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

T & T's: – Unit 4.1 What is Grace

Romans 8:1, There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Saturday Night: (Preschool & Children)

Take a few minutes to debrief last Sunday's lesson.

Preview for Sunday, March 16

Paul's Preached in Rome (Acts 28)

- How long was Paul on Malta before arriving in Rome? 3 Months
- Where did Paul live in Rome? A house not in prison
- Who did Paul speak too? The Jewish people in Rome
- How did the religious leaders feel about what Paul taught? They were open to hearing more about Jesus but others were not.
- How many years did Paul live in Rome proclaiming the Gospel? 2 years

Upcoming Activities:

March 10—14	Spring Break
March 16	Please Donate Candy & Plastic Egg for Easter Egg Hunt
March 17	Mom's Bible Study 9AM in Fellowship Hall
March 20	Pickleball and Walking Thursday Nights 6—8
March 25	Ladies Night Out at Riverbend 6 to 8pm, leave the church at 5pm
March 30	Sunday Funday, 9AM in Gym
April 5	Young Adult Game Night with Childcare at the church 5 to 9pm
April 12	Easter Egg Hunt 10AM @ Acton Place Park
April 13	Palm Sunday—Kids March through both services in Biblical Costumes
April 17	Wee School Spring Sing 6PM
April 18	The Seder Celebration 6PM
April 20	Easter

