
STORM

Week 2: Clarity.



Have you ever been in a storm? You become sick. Lose a loved one. There are cutbacks at work and you lose your job. Your marriage is in shambles. Your kids act out. You wonder in the midst of it all... where are you God?!? Everyone goes through a storm. You might be in one now. During this series, we are learning how God leads us to the other side of the storm.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever been given valuable advice that clarified what to do while in the middle of a difficult situation? What happened, and why was the advice so valuable?

2. **Read Acts 27:21-26.**

The crew had not eaten for quite some time (v 21), which likely made matters very difficult. Lack of food would likely bring confusion, anger, and despair. How does Paul bring clarity to the situation? Considering Paul was a prisoner on the ship, what does this say to us about the sort of people God uses to bring clarity + focus in the middle of the storms and difficult challenges in life? How has God used you in difficult situations to offer hope and clarity to those struggling?

3. **Re-read Acts 27:23-26.** It is clear that God is the initiator of action in the passage. What hope comes from God's plan and purpose for this storm? What does God's action in the midst of a difficult situation tell us about God's plan and purposes for our lives? How might God's action (also called providence) bring us hope and encouragement when we're in a storm? If God has a plan and purpose for all things, can any storm we experience disrupt God's plan + purpose?

4. Reflect on this for a moment as a group: Paul is stuck in a storm, without food, a prisoner, headed to Rome for an audience before the most powerful man in the world, and yet he has a vision that God's plan is going to be fulfilled. In the midst of the storm, Paul gained clarity because he prayed and remembered who was Lord in his life (see v 23). How will you do the same?

5. Take time to pray together as a group for people's storms. Listen, encourage, pray for, and where appropriate, try to offer clarity of God's purposes and plan being fulfilled in the midst of storms.

BE THE REVOLUTION

When the storm arises, God offers clarity - if we are willing to look and listen for it.

RENOVATING THE HEART

"Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you" (*Acts 27:24*).