



Teaching Notes: Ray Davis
December 11, 2011
How It Changes Everything!

desert breeze community church

Acts 27:1-44 **“Weathering Life’s Storms”**

You are either in a storm, coming out of a storm or getting ready to go into a storm. Are you prepared for life’s storms?

What Is True About Life’s Storms?

Verses 9-12

Storms are inevitable, therefore don’t be paranoid or passive but be prepared. (John 17:33; James 1:2; 1Pet.4:12)

Verses 13-15

Storms can seemingly come out of nowhere. (Job 1:8; Dan. 6; 2 Tim. 3:12; Gal. 6:7-9; John 10:10; 1Pet. 5:8)

Storms can drastically change the direction of our lives. (Ps.119:67, 71)

Verses 16-20

Storms reveal the condition of our lives. (1Pet.1:7)

Storms can bring a needed change of values.

(Pro. 11:4)

Storms can bring us to an end of ourselves & the beginning of God. (2Cor.1:9-10)

How to Weather Life’s Storms?

Fix Your Focus on God’s... (Matt14:22-33)

Verses 21-23

Presence (Heb. 13:5-6; 2Cor.12:8-10)

Verse 24

Promises (Ps. 119:50; Ps. 1:1-3)

Verse 25

Person (Character) (Pro. 18:10)

Verses 27-32

Providence (Life of Joseph Gen37-50; The book of Esther)

Verses 33-38

People (Traveling companions) v2 (Acts 19:29) (Heb. 10:24-25; Gal. 6:2)

Verses 39-44 And so it will be true about you, God will get you safely to the shore. If He took on your greatest storm through the cross He will certainly see you through your lesser storms (Rom.8:31-32).



Growing

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- 1) You are either in a storm, coming out of a storm or will be going into a storm. Do you think most Americans are ready for weathering life's storms? Explain your answer.

- 2) Paul & other prisoners have boarded a cargo ship headed for Rome to face trial. What should have been a dream Mediterranean cruise becomes a nightmare on the sea. Read Acts 27:9-12. Why do you think the centurion didn't pay much attention to Paul's advice? What two extreme responses can actually make storms worse than what they are?

- 3) Read verses 13-15. What are the causes of storms? How can storms drastically change the direction of our lives (Ps119:67, 71)? Read verses 16-20. How do storms reveal the condition of our lives (1Pet.1:7)? How have storms helped you to unload the cargo in your life (shift of values-Pro11:4)?

- 4) How do storms bring us to an end of ourselves & the beginning of God (2Cor.1:9-10)? Read Matt.14:22-33. What happened when Peter saw the wind (v30) & how did Jesus respond (v31)?

- 5) How important is it to fix our focus on God during storms? What if our focus has been on anything but God before the storm? Reflect on the five "P" words that define what it means to focus on God? Which one(s) for you are strengths & growth areas? Pray.