



Week 32 | July 14 Sermon

Community:

This may be a good opportunity to start or continue talking about what is next for your GROUP. It is good to have these conversations together and to make concrete decisions so that everyone knows what to expect and how to prepare. Do you have vacations coming up within the GROUP in the next couple of weeks? Realistically, when will you all be together? How will you mark the end of the series? Is there a significant spiritual step you are being called to as a GROUP? Is there a way that you can play and celebrate together? Even for those of you who plan to continue gathering together, it is a good idea to mark the end of this season and celebrate it. It is also good for you take a little bit of a break before starting into what's next. You have been at this for quite some time now, and rhythms of rest are healthy and important for all of us.

Take time to pray together about what God has next for you as a GROUP and as individuals. Make some concrete plans and set yourselves up for success to execute those plans well.

Be blessed to receive all that our good Father has for you in community.

Be blessed in the company of those who understand you and with whom you belong.

Be blessed knowing that you are His child, co-heirs with Christ, and that in community you are surrounded by others with the same sonship, daughtership and Kingdom destiny.

Be blessed to live out your Kingdom destiny through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, giving Him all the glory and all the praise, for He is the only one who deserves it.

*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. **Hebrews 10:24-25***

GROUPS

Sermon Title: Destination Rome Part 1 | Text: Acts 27

Auditorium Discussion Questions::

What was the scariest (actual) storm you've ever experienced?

Paul was able to maintain a sense of calm in the middle of an unbelievably stressful situation. What may have contributed to his sense of peace and contentment?

Tom talked about several specific storms from scripture, as the theme of storms is quite prevalent. Did you think of any others he didn't mention? What lessons could there be from the ones you thought of?

Read Psalm 55. What lessons can we learn from the psalmist's experience amidst life's storms?

Would you be willing to share a particular storm you find yourself in this season of life? May the others in your group pray for you to find both peace and purpose amidst the storm?

Sanctuary Discussion Questions::

Read and ponder the text of Acts 27. What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to? Why?

Be reminded of the words used by Kevin to organize his teaching in recent weeks:

6/16-Resurrection

6/23-Prayer

6/30-Blameless

7/7-Testify

7/14-Storms

Do these organizing words from previous weeks have any impact on this week's word: Storms? If so, please share your insights.

As you read Acts 27, what challenges were Paul and shipmates facing in these major storms?

Have you ever experienced similar threats in the storms of your life? How did Paul respond? How did you respond? Where was the Lord in your storms?

From the text of Acts 27, Kevin offered some possible action steps as we face the storms of life. Be reminded that our action steps are opportunities to join in the Acts 1:8 mandate. They are:

Abide/remain in Christ.

Be a "secret agent" of hope.

Offer specific and tangible encouragements as the Spirit directs: words, supernatural insight, hospitality, perspective, prayer.

Testify to the hope you have amidst the storm.

Serve in the storms—willingly, regularly and hopefully.

Will you pray for each other? Pray for victory and courage in the storms being faced.

