



The Acts of the Spirit
TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH



ACTS 27: 39-44

"THE SHIPWRECK"

JUNE 29, 2025

SUMMARY

Pastor Nathan brought closure to Paul's maritime saga. Paul, under the care and direction of the Master of the wind and the waves, adds temporary sea captain to his resume. Despite the hopeless situation surrounding him, he helped his Roman captors stay alive amid a shipwreck that could have meant certain death.

Looking beyond the story on the page, Pastor Nathan saw spiritual themes that help us all navigate the suffering and uncertainty life throws at us. Like Paul, we often find ourselves tossed by the storms of life and in need of an anchor. God's promises are the anchor that we must cling to, keeping us from going under the waves of despair.

But to properly use those promises, we must answer two questions:

1. What do God's promises do?

God's promises are essential gifts from God that anchor our souls, guide our lives, and secure our future.

2. What are God's promises?

Although God has given us numerous promises, Pastor Nathan highlighted three: God will strengthen us, He will keep us, and He will never leave us.

Amid the storms of life and our own doubt, we must return again and again to these essential questions and promises that anchor our soul. Together, let's unpack this text and savor these truths.

DISCUSSION

Expand Our Awareness

A promise is a declaration of assurance that one will do something sometime in the future. Therefore, with every promise, there is some period of waiting. In the waiting lie all the challenges we mortals have with promises.



This document can be used for either personal or group reflection.

Group facilitator: Please feel empowered to use only the questions that are helpful for the context of your group.



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- What does it feel like to wait for a promise to be fulfilled, and what can creep in during that time?
- What is required for you to trust a promise?
- What does it look like to wait and trust well for a promise to be fulfilled?

Extract the Truth

Read the text: Acts 27:39-44

- What jumps out to you from the text and why?
- At this point in the story, Paul has two things: a promise from Jesus and his past experiences of seeing those promises fulfilled.
- What has Paul learned about God's promises throughout his journey to spread the Gospel to the ends of the earth?
- How has that created lasting anchors in his life that show up as calm leadership in the face of death?
- Which anchors do you believe Paul may have treasured the most and sustained him on his journey?

Experience Transformation

Pastor Nathan said God's promises do the following:

- Anchor our Soul
- Guide our Lives
- Secure our Future

- Which one do you most feel the need for in your current situation, and why?

Pastor Nathan laid out three essential promises. God will:

- Strengthen us
- Keep us
- Never leave us

- Which one is most meaningful to you today, and how does fulfill the need you just expressed above?



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- What is God prompting you to do this week to better anchor yourself in God's promises?

Pray



**PREPARE FOR
NEXT WEEK:**

Acts 28:1-6