



the upside down series
week two: upside down leadership

1. Godly leaders respect their _____.
2. Godly leaders _____ who they are.
3. Godly leaders have great _____.
4. Godly leaders overcome their _____.
5. Godly leaders take _____.
6. Godly leaders have _____.

Only two more weeks to go. Can you believe how much we've learned this year? We started off with the resurrection of Jesus, the mighty rushing wind, and plenty about Peter. Then we were introduced to Saul while Stephen was martyred. Soon Paul met the Lord and the early church grew.

Paul has been our example in the Lord for the last few weeks. He's been called the greatest Christian of all times. Yet he's just like us in so many ways. This week we will see him endure one more trial before he makes it to Rome.



day one: coasting along

I would encourage you to read all of Acts 27 to get the full context of the story.

Our focus today will be on vs. 1-12.

exploring the text

1. How was Paul treated by the centurion in vs.3?

2. What advice did Paul give the sailors?

3. How did the captain regard Paul's advice?

4. How do you see Paul reaching out to those around him during his travels to Rome?

5. What does Paul's relationship with Julius tell you about the apostle Paul?

prayer

Sit quietly for a few moments, without trying to force your thoughts to move in any direction. Let silence reign in your heart before you look at Scripture.

personal application

6. What dreams do you have of taking the gospel to other places?



day two: I told you so

Do you ever feel like telling everyone around you: “I told you so!” Paul certainly had the chance to do that, and kind of did. Let’s see what happens in his journey today!

Read Acts 13-26.

exploring the text

1. Why did the sailors pull up anchor and sail forth?
2. What followed the south winds in vs.14?
3. Read Psalm 135:7 and 148:8. Who controls the wind?
4. What danger is always before those who take their own way instead of God’s?
5. What did their human helps avail in vs.18?

verse

Isaiah 26:3-4

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.



day three: safe through the storm

Begin your time with Prayer.

Read Acts 27:27-38.

exploring the text

1. What assurance was Paul able to give to the men in vs.22?
2. What testimony did Paul give in vs.23-24?
3. What was the secret to Paul's abiding peace?
4. What did the men do in their impatience in vs.29-30?

verse

Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Application for your life?
Record your thoughts here.

- 5. How long had they been without food in vs.33?

- 6. What advice did Paul give them in vs.34?

- 7. What assurance did Paul add in vs.34 to that given earlier in vs.24?

- 8. What appropriate thing did he do before eating anything?

- 9. What was the result of Paul's attitude in vs.36?

personal application

- 10. In what ways have you seen your confidence in God affect those around you?



day four: safe and sound

Begin your time with Prayer. The storm has passed. All is well. Almost..

Read Acts 27:39-44.

exploring the text

1. How did Paul demonstrate the qualities of a leader during the tough voyage to Rome?

2. The devil tries one more time to keep Paul from getting to Rome. What last tactic does he try to do and fail?

interesting fact

Sanctification is the process of being made holy. To sanctify means literally to set apart for special use or purpose.

3. Who was making sure that Paul would make it to Rome?



day five: sanctification

Again, begin your time with Prayer.

Let's focus on sanctification today.

Read I Thessalonians 4:1-8 and 5:16-24.

exploring the text

1. Write down what you learn about sanctification from these passages.

2. What is God's will for your life?

3. In what ways do you need to be more holy?

verse

Isaiah 26:3-4

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who will surely do it.

