



BELIEVING GOD

Acts 27

Acts 27:9-12

Much time had been lost, and sailing had already become dangerous because by now it was after the Day of Atonement.

So Paul warned them,
“Men, I can see that
our voyage is going to
be disastrous and
bring great loss to
ship and cargo, and
to our own lives also.”

But the centurion, instead of listening to what Paul said, followed the advice of the pilot and of the owner of the ship.

Since the harbor was unsuitable to winter in, the majority decided that we should sail on, hoping to reach Phoenix and winter there.

Acts 27:18-26

We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands.

**When neither sun nor
stars appeared for
many days and the
storm continued
raging, we finally gave
up all hope of being
saved.**

After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said; “Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss.”

**“But now I urge you
to keep up your
courage, because not
one of you will be
lost; only the ship will
be destroyed.”**

“Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me and said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.’”

**“So keep up your
courage, men, for I
believe God;
that it will happen just as
He told me. Nevertheless,
we must run aground on
some island.”**

**Believing in God
means you agree that
He exists.**

James 2:19

**You believe that there
is one God. Good!
Even the demons
believe that and
shudder.**

**Believing God means
you trust God.**

**You trust what He is
saying and are willing to
listen to Him and obey.**

Acts 27:39-44

When daylight came, they did not recognize the land, but they saw a bay with a sandy beach, where they decided to run the ship aground if they could.

Cutting loose the anchors, they left them in the sea and at the same time untied the ropes that held the rudders. Then they hoisted the foresail to the wind and made for the beach.

But the ship struck a sandbar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf. The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping.

But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. The rest were to get there on planks or on other pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land safely.

**How did Paul believe
God so quickly and
so completely?**

**And how is it possible
to have the same sort
of faith that he did?**

**Paul's faith and
willingness to believe
God was born from
experience, practice
and knowing who
God is.**

**1. Lean into our
experiences to build
a strong foundation
of faith.**

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

2. Practice

Practice an Attitude of Gratitude

- Purposely find things to be grateful for.
- Purposely make a point to praise God for what He has done.

Hebrews 13:8
Jesus Christ is the
same yesterday,
today and forever.

Luke 1:37

**Nothing is impossible
with God.**

**Practice letting go of
control to God.**

**“Father, not my will
but yours.”**

Luke 22:42

**Practice putting your
faith into action.**

**Flex those faith
muscles.**

3. Knowing who God is

Psalm 9:10

Those who know your
name put their trust in
you, for you, O Lord
have not forsaken
those who seek You.

1. Lean into the experiences

2. Practical Practice

Having an Attitude of

Gratitude

Giving up Control to God.

Putting your Faith into action.

3. Knowing who God is

