

GOD WITH US IN OUR FOLLY



Notes:

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2.

3.

SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of December 16, 2018

Acts 27:20-26

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

1 This weekend we were reminded that God is with us in our folly. Why is it important to know and understand this assurance?

2 How do we move forward once we have made a foolish choice? Is there something in this process that is difficult? Why or why not?

3 How have you relied on God to make wise decisions? Explain.

DIGGING DEEPER

1 **Acts 27:9-12, ESV** – ⁹ Since much time had passed, and the voyage was now dangerous because even the Fast was already over, Paul advised them, ¹⁰ saying, "Sirs, I perceive that the voyage will be with injury and much loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives." ¹¹ But the centurion paid more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship than to what Paul said. ¹² And because the harbor was not suitable to spend the winter in, the majority decided to put out to sea from there, on the chance that somehow they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete, facing both southwest and northwest, and spend the winter there.

Looking at the passage above, what leads the Centurion to make a bad decision? Who or what did the Centurion place his trust in?

The Centurion's mistake leads to a "no hope" situation for everyone on the boat. Have you ever found yourself in a "no hope" situation because of a bad decision on your part or on the part of someone else? Explain.

2 **2 Tim 4:17, ESV** – ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Looking at the passage above, how would you describe the impact of God's presence?

Describe a time in your life when you have had to rely on God's presence for safety or rescue?

3 **2 Cor 12:6-10, ESV** – ⁶ though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. ⁷ So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Looking at the passage above, we are reminded that His power is made perfect in our weakness. What lessons can we learn from Paul's example of understanding this truth?

Contrast the character of a conceited person with a humble person?

Why is it important for believers to remain humble? How does God use humble people?

TAKING IT HOME

God is with us during our times of folly. He is looking for people to grow in their faith by having a deeper surrender to him. Do you find yourself currently in the midst of a difficult time as a result of someone's folly? What is your next step of surrender, so that God's power can be made perfect in your weakness?

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Gen 4:6-7

Prov 1:7

Matt 6:13

Acts 18:9-11

Acts 23:11

Acts 27:30-32

Acts 27:42-44

Acts 28:1

2 Cor 1:3-11