



SHIP SHAPE

Philippians 4:7 (NLT) *Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.*

Everyone SINKS..

When it comes to shipwrecks in life, it's not a matter of IF but WHEN.

The only thing fully guaranteed in life is DEATH, and yet there is still hope even beyond the GRAVE.

Paul's Hardship..

2 Corinthians 11:23b-30 (NLT)

Acts 27:13-14 (NLT) ¹³ When a light wind began blowing from the south, the sailors thought they could make it. So they pulled up anchor and sailed close to the shore of Crete. ¹⁴ But the weather changed abruptly, and a wind of typhoon strength (called a "northeaster") burst across the island and blew us out to sea.

- The storm took over and now there is NO WAY OUT.

Acts 27:18-20 (NLT) ¹⁸ The next day, as gale-force winds continued to batter the ship, the crew began throwing the cargo overboard. ¹⁹ The following day they even took some of the ship's gear and threw it overboard. ²⁰ The terrible storm raged for many days, blotting out the sun and the stars, until at last all hope was gone.

Acts 27:39, 42-44 (NLT) ³⁹ When morning dawned, they didn't recognize the coastline, but they saw a bay with a beach and wondered if they could get to shore by running the ship aground... ⁴² The soldiers wanted to kill the prisoners to make sure they didn't swim ashore and escape. ⁴³ But the commanding officer wanted to spare Paul, so he didn't let them carry out their plan. Then he ordered all who could swim to jump overboard first and make for land. ⁴⁴ The others held on to planks or debris from the broken ship. So everyone escaped safely to shore.

- You can lose your SHIP without losing your SOUL!

4 Storm Thoughts to Build on in the Weeks to Come..

1) Storms are INEVITABLE.

John 16:33 (NLT) *I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."*

2) Storms are UNPREDICTABLE.

Jeremiah 2:30 (NLT) *"I have punished your children, but they did not respond to my discipline. You yourselves have killed your prophets as a lion kills its prey.*

3) Storms are IMPARTIAL.

Matthew 5:45 (NLT) *In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike.*

4) Storms are TEMPORARY.

Hebrews 10:35-37 (NLT) ³⁵ So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! ³⁶ Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised. ³⁷ "For in just a little while, the Coming One will come and not delay.

Choose Life..

Deuteronomy 30:19 (NLT) *"Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would **choose life**, so that you and your descendants might live!*

Additional Notes:

scriptures that relate

Monday: John 16	Wednesday: 2 Corinthians 11	Friday: Acts 28
Tuesday: Acts 27	Thursday: Philippians 4	Saturday: Matthew 5

small groups—talk it over

1. Where do you find peace in this crazy world we live in?
2. How did Paul keep himself together after facing so much difficulty?
3. What do you really not like about going through storms in life?
4. What are the benefits?
5. If you lose your ship, how do you not lose your soul?

pastor brian's prayer requests

Monday: Pray for Rocky Mountain Elementary's new principal, staff, teachers and kids.

Tuesday: Pray for the family that received a new home in Mexico, courtesy of our mission team.

Wednesday: Pray for the Whiz Kids tutors and children from Cotton Creek Elementary.

Thursday: Pray for the leadership forming to bring Upward Basketball back to our gym this fall.

Friday: Pray for the MOPS program and the moms and kids that meet here each month.

Saturday: Pray for the DivorceCare and GriefShare groups that meet here on a regular basis.