

## Acts 28— “THE FINAL CHAPTER”

**[#1]** Just as the Lord promised Paul, everyone on board survived the storm! God’s Word never \_\_\_\_\_!  
(Luke 21:33) Jesus ... "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away."  
(Mark 16:17-18; John 13:34-35)

**[#2]** Those who were sailing with Paul had learned firsthand it only takes one Son (not the twin sons of Greek mythology), the \_\_\_\_\_ - to save drowning sailors.  
(Phil. 4:22; Genesis 22; John 3:16; Ps 22; Ps 16:10)

**[#3]** God will not force Himself upon any man... He moves heaven & hell to reach a man’s heart, but once there, He stands at the door and \_\_\_\_\_...  
(Revelation 3:20) “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.”  
(Acts 1:8)

**[#4]** History records that Paul witnessed powerfully for Jesus before Emperor Nero! (“Do not be afraid, Paul, you must be brought before Caesar...” Acts 27:24) Jesus even loves Potentates, Politicians & Presidents! \_\_\_\_\_!

**[#5]** Honestly, anyone who chooses to reject Jesus’ love and forgiveness is acting a bit \_\_\_\_\_!  
(2 Tim. 4:1-8)

Paul ...  
“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

## Acts 28 “THE FINAL CHAPTER” OGCF Oct. 10, 2021

**[#1]** Just as the Lord promised Paul, everyone on board survived the storm! God’s Word never **fails**!  
(Luke 21:33) Jesus ... "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away."  
(Mark 16:17-18; John 13:34-35)

**[#2]** Those who were sailing with Paul had learned firsthand it only takes one Son (not the twin sons of Greek mythology), the **Son of God** - to save drowning sailors.  
(Phil. 4:22; Genesis 22; John 3:16; Ps 22; Ps 16:10)

**[#3]** God will not force Himself upon any man... He moves heaven & hell to reach a man’s heart, but once there, He stands at the door and **knocks**...

(Revelation 3:20) “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.”  
(Acts 1:8)

**[#4]** History records that Paul witnessed powerfully for Jesus before Emperor Nero! (“Do not be afraid, Paul, you must be brought before Caesar...” Acts 27:24) Jesus even loves Potentates, Politicians & Presidents! **Pray**!

**[#5]** Honestly, anyone who chooses to reject Jesus’ love and forgiveness is acting a bit **insane**!  
(2 Tim. 4:1-8)  
**I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.**

## TAKING IT HOME

- 6) Paul compares the Christian life to a race. This race ends when we die or are raptured into heaven. How do Paul's words and example challenge you?

**1 Corinthians 9:24-27** - "[24] Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. [25] And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. [26] Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. [27] But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."

In what way(s) are you running your race well?

In what way(s) can you run your race better?

Name at least one, practical way you want to race for the imperishable crown. (i.e. less tv, more bible/prayer time, more godly fellowship, love spouse/kids better, forgive someone, etc)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶

## Life Group Homework For the week of October 10, 2021

### MY STORY

- 1) This week we finished our eight-month-long series in Acts with chapter 28. Thinking back to the whole book of Acts, what are some key points, stories, or thoughts that stand out to you? (Feel free to use old note sheets to jog your memory)
- 2) How has God used the book of Acts to challenge or encourage you this past year? My need to...
  - ...be filled with the Holy Spirit
  - ...share the gospel with others
  - ...endure hardship, knowing my hope is in heaven
  - ...remember that God can use anyone
  - ...be saved by God's grace/work, rather than my works
  - ...be led by the Spirit
  - ...know and use the power of prayer
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

### DIGGING DEEPER

- 4) Read the following key passages in Acts, highlighting any questions or thoughts you have.

**Acts 1:6-8** - "[6] Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" [7] And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. [8] "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.""

**Acts 4:12** - "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

**Acts 4:19-20** - "[19] But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. [20] "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.""

**Acts 9:4-6** - "[4] Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" [5] And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads." [6] So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.""

Looking back at the book of Acts, we remember that it's not so much the Acts of the Apostles, but the Acts of the Holy Spirit. Consider the broken, sinful people God used to take the gospel from about 120 people in Jerusalem (Acts 1:15) to thousands of people across the Roman Empire. In what ways are we similar to these early Christians?

In what ways are we different?

In what way(s) do you want to be more like Peter, Paul, or the other apostles?

- 5) This week we talked about Paul's last words in Scripture, where he says he is nearing his death (2 Timothy 4:6). What stands out to you from the following passages where Paul talks about death and our hope?

**Philippians 1:21-23** - "[21] For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. [22] But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. [23] For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better."

**Acts 20:24** - "But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God."

**Philippians 3:13-14** - "[13] Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, [14] I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

**Romans 8:23** - "Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body."