

# Acts-Revelation

## Paul is shipwrecked

## Acts 27:9-44

### Younger Verse

Speak the truth to each other. Zechariah 8:16

### Older Verse

Speak the truth to each other. Zechariah 8:16

### Welcome Time

Have you ever been in an accident or known someone who has? It is scary and terrifying. Let's listen to this story and see what happens when Paul is in a boating accident.

### Bible Story

*The following is a summary of the Bible story to help you with your preparation. It is **NOT** to be read to the children. Instead, use your Bible to explain the story. Make a note page to help you remember your plans for the lesson or questions you wanted to ask.*

Remember last week we learned that Paul would be going to see the emperor to tell him about his case. Governor Festus put Paul and other "prisoners" on a ship headed for the emperor's country of Italy. Together, there were over 200 people on the ship.

The ship headed along the coast and stopped several times because the weather was starting to get windy.

Finally, Paul warned the soldiers that much would be lost if they continued on their journey. Paul was suggesting that they stay in the town for the winter to avoid the horrible stormy winter at sea.

The head soldier did not listen to Paul. Instead, they set sail and traveled along the shore. Before long, a hurricane size wind came and swept the ship into the deep water.

Many days passed where they couldn't see the sun or land. They had thrown extra cargo off the ship so that the ship would be safe.

The rain and wind were so fierce that the men began to lose hope. Paul talked to the people and encouraged them. He told them that an angel told him that everyone would be safe and the ship would run aground on an island.

After 14 days, the sailors sensed that land was close by. They dropped 4 anchors and prayed for daylight. Several sailors tried to escape by letting down the lifeboats. Paul saw them and told the commander that unless they stayed on board the ship, everyone would not be safe. So the commander ordered the lifeboats to be cut free.

### Lesson Goals

Describe how Paul trusted in God

Share how God protected Paul and helped him have strength

Just before daylight, Paul encouraged the people to eat. He again shared that God would protect them and everyone would survive. Paul took a piece of bread and thanked God in front of all of the men.

When dawn arrived, the sailors saw land and cut the anchors free. The ship struck sand on the bottom of the ocean. This frightened the soldiers. They planned to kill all the prisoners to prevent them from escaping. However, the commander ordered all who could swim to jump to shore and the others to float on planks of wood to shore.

Just as Paul said, everyone survived the shipwreck and arrived on shore on the island. They stayed on the island three months until winter was over.

Paul trusted God and knew that God would keep His promise. How do you think the soldiers and sailors felt when they saw what God had done? How do you think it felt to trust Paul and believe what he said, not knowing much about God?

God asks us to trust Him, just like the people in the boat had to do. We must believe Him and do what He says. God sent Jesus to make a way for us to get to Heaven. For us to get to Heaven, we must believe and TRUST in Jesus; not just in our head, but in our hearts. When we believe in Jesus, God wants us to spend time with Him, like Paul did. He will show us things and encourage us just like He helped Paul through a hard situation. He promises to help us and be near us all the time.

**Learning Activities**

Help the kids experience what it must have been like to trust Paul and believe in God. Sing "With Jesus in the boat you can smile through the storm."

**Memory Verse Activities**

Raise and lower the volume as you say the verse. Have fun! Help the kids see the importance of speaking the truth!

**Prayer Time**

Thank God for protecting us and helping us through hard times.

**Clean Up/Snack time**

Make cupcake ships. Make a flag for your ship by wrapping a Post-It note around a toothpick.

**Planning for July 18th**  
**Paul preaches in Rome, Italy**  
**Acts 28:17-31**

Preschool Lesson  
For  
Paul is in a storm!

Last week we learned how Paul got to meet some very important people—the king and queen. Paul really wanted them to believe in Jesus.

After the king left, Paul was put on a ship to sail to meet the emperor. The Emperor is even MORE important than the king!!

There were many people on the ship. As they started on their journey, the winds began to blow (make noises like wind).

Paul warned the people that they needed to stop because the storm would get worse. The people did not believe and kept sailing out to sea.

Sure enough, the storm got much, much worse. They could not see the sun and it rained and rained.

The people started to get very scared. Paul came to them and told them that God would keep them safe. He told them that an angel told him that everyone would be safe and the ship would hit ground on an island.

Just as God promised, finally they hit ground on an island. Everyone was safe and thanked God for saving them. They stayed on the island until the bad weather was gone.

God helped the people see that they would be safe. God helps us and cares for us too!

Sing, “With Jesus in your boat you can smile through the storm.”

Pray and thank God for loving us!

## Hands-On Activities For Paul is shipwrecked

Pretend everyone is in a boat/ship for the lesson. Use blocks or cardboard to create a ship. Make sound effects and bring a spray bottle and squirt water to help the kids identify with the story! They will enjoy it!

For preschoolers, help them identify a circle and square. Cut both in half and make a ship!

Make a boat out of a plastic container. Use straws and a piece of paper as the sail.

Make the puppet figures and tell the story. Then let the kids tell the story.

Contrast Paul's shipwreck with the story of Jonah in the Bible. Share how there are different ship stories. Talk about how much Paul loved God and wanted the people on the boat to believe in Jesus.