

Finish Well, Keeping Jesus' Focus!

New Life- Telling the Story #6

Paul's Faith Story → Trials before Jewish & Roman leaders → [Paul's Journey to Rome](#)

⁴¹ 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.

⁴² The **soldiers** planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any from swimming away and escaping. ⁴³ 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. ⁴⁴ The rest were to get there on planks or on other pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land safely. **Acts 27:41-44**

Trust God & think of others even in dire circumstances!

¹ Once safely on shore, we found out the island was called Malta. ² The **islanders** showed us unusual kindness. They built a fire and welcomed us all because it was raining and cold. ³ **Paul** gathered a pile of brushwood and, as he put it on the fire, a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. ⁴ When the **islanders** saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to each other, "This man must be a murderer; for though he escaped from the sea, the goddess Justice has not allowed him to live." ⁵ But **Paul** shook the snake off into the fire and suffered no ill effects. ⁶ The people expected him to swell up or suddenly fall dead; but after waiting a long time and seeing nothing unusual happen to him, they changed their minds... **Acts 28:1-6**

⁷ There was an estate nearby that belonged to **Publius**, the chief official of the island. He welcomed us to his home and showed us generous hospitality for three days. ⁸ His father was sick in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. **Paul** went in to see him and, after **praying**, placed his hands on him and healed him. ⁹ When this had happened, the rest of the sick on the island came and were cured. ¹⁰ They honored us in many ways; and when we were ready to sail, they furnished us with the supplies we needed. **Acts 28:7-10**

Take initiative & risk to serve others humbly!

¹⁶ When we got to Rome, **Paul** was allowed to live by himself, with a soldier to guard him... ²³ **Paul** witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about the **kingdom of God**, and from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets he tried to persuade them about Jesus. ²⁴ Some were convinced, but others would not believe. ²⁵ They disagreed among themselves and began to leave after **Paul** had made this final statement...

²⁷ For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they **might see** with their eyes, **hear** with their ears, **understand** with their hearts and **turn**, and **I would heal them**.

²⁸⁻²⁹ "Therefore I want you to know that God's salvation has also been sent to the Gentiles, and **they will listen!**" ³⁰ For two whole years **Paul** stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him.

³¹ He proclaimed the **kingdom of God** and taught about the **Lord Jesus Christ**-with all boldness and without hindrance! **Acts 28:16-31**

Show & share Jesus with an open & responsive heart!

Crossroads Church

Discovering Life Connected with God!

Our Vision

To be a dynamic and diverse family of believers in Jesus Christ connected in transforming relationships with God, each other, and our world!

Our Purpose and Mission

To connect people with God, God's family, and God's mission through a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ!

Our Strategy

To fulfill God's purpose in our lives through a balanced commitment to love God with our entire being and to love our neighbor as ourselves, according to God's Great Commandment and Great Commission in the Bible.

Our Commitment

Growth

To speak and act more like Jesus Christ each day of our lives.
To reach people disconnected from God with the love of Jesus.

Relationships

To develop depth, consistency, and closeness in our walk with Jesus.
To share life and spiritual journey together with each other.

Relevance

To apply God's truths and principles to life in practical ways.
To engage and meaningfully share Jesus with people.

Involvement

To participate in church family relationships and responsibilities.
To discover and contribute our dynamic and diverse abilities.

Truth

To value Jesus Christ and the Bible as God's eternal revelation to us.
To believe and center on Jesus Christ as forgiver and life leader.

Let's Catch the Vision and Share the Mission Together!

"We are an autonomous, biblically-based church family that actively partners locally and internationally to fulfill our mission to connect people in transforming relationship with Jesus Christ!"