



Sermon Title: Only the Ship!

by: Pastor Rock Dillaman

Scriptures: "I urge you to keep up your courage, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For this very night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood before me, saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar; and behold, God has granted you all those who are sailing with you.' Therefore, keep up your courage, men, for I believe God that it will turn out exactly as I have been told. But we must run aground on a certain island." [Acts 27: 22-26]

1. A shipwreck is an event or series of events that **appears** to put our souls and our future in **danger**! And Jesus' followers aren't immune to them!
2. Sustained courage calls for sustained **memory**. We have to continually **remind** ourselves of things God reminds us of continually.
3. Most shipwrecks are the inevitable result of living in a **broken** world among **broken** people.
4. Don't **blame** shipwrecks on God. Doing so will put you at odds with **hope**!
5. Shipwrecks are **inevitable** for those who dare to take **risks**.
6. Shipwrecks are never a total **loss** for Jesus' followers.
7. Our lives as Jesus' followers are more than any **ship** in which we once **sailed**.
8. For Jesus' followers the things that mattered **most** before a shipwreck **remain** after the shipwreck.
9. The future that looks **bleak** immediately after a shipwreck will look **brighter** in the future.
10. Someone's opportunity for **faith** may be born with our **shipwreck**.
11. No shipwreck can keep us from **finishing** our God-intended **course**.

Growth Group Questions
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KICK-OFF

1. If you could spend the week traveling around the country by plane, boat, or train, what would you choose and why?
2. Do you generally like to take risks? Why or why not?



THE GAME PLAN

1. How do you sustain your courage when shipwrecks occur in your life?
2. Share about a time when you experienced a shipwreck and God sent others to your aid that rekindled your hope.
3. Have you ever been frustrated by an unexpected detour only to learn that God was leading you to where He was working? Explain.
4. What points from today's sermon challenged you, impacted you, or caught your attention and why?

OVERTIME

1. Do you find it difficult or easy to trust God when trials and shipwrecks appear unexpectedly? Explain.
2. Can you think of some Scripture verses that declare or proclaim God's faithfulness to His people or followers?

