

SERMON APPLICATION SHEET FOR:

Pastor Tony Felich

Confirmation and Encouragement For the Mission

Acts 28:1-16

February 9, 2020

Sermon Text	Sermon Notes
<p>Acts 28:1 After we were brought safely through, we then learned that the island was called Malta. [2] The native people showed us unusual kindness, for they kindled a fire and welcomed us all, because it had begun to rain and was cold. [3] When Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and put them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened on his hand. [4] When the native people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, "No doubt this man is a murderer. Though he has escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live." [5] He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. [6] They were waiting for him to swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw no misfortune come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god. [7] Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the chief man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us hospitably for three days. [8] It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery. And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him, healed him. [9] And when this had taken place, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured. [10] They also honored us greatly, and when we were about to sail, they put on board whatever we needed. [11] After three months we set sail in a ship that had wintered in the island, a ship of Alexandria, with the twin gods as a figurehead. [12] Putting in at Syracuse, we stayed there for three days. [13] And from there we made a circuit and arrived at Rhegium. And after one day a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli. [14] There we found brothers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome. [15] And the brothers there, when they heard about us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage. [16] And when we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him.</p>	<p>God provides encouragement for the mission to which He calls us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I. He brings us through the elements (1)II. He sends people to help us (2)III. He protects us from various perils (3-6)IV. He provides hospitality (2, 7, 10)V. He gives us ministry opportunities (8-9)VI. He grants smooth waters when we need them (11-12)VII. He places us in fellowship with others (14-16)

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Sermon Application Questions

1. Discuss a time you were encouraged by the "unusual kindness" of a stranger.

2. Some of the native people thought Paul was guilty of murder because the snake bit him. Then, when he didn't die, they thought he was a god. Discuss this statement from John Stott-

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"While on Malta he was first called a murderer, then a god. But the truth was at neither extreme. Instead of being drowned or poisoned, Paul had actually been protected from both fates by Jesus."

3. It's common for people to think accidents, sickness, or certain trials represent God's punishment. Why is this unbiblical thinking? What is a more Biblical way to understand these things?

4. There are several demonstrations of hospitality and fellowship in this passage. Discuss the value of hospitality and the phenomenon of Christian fellowship as you have experienced these?

Prayer Requests

This week our family will lift up requests for:

This week our family will praise the Lord for:

HFG Notes & Actions:

Next HFG meeting is: