Uncertain – week 5

 Storms

Acts 27:13 -26

1. God’s plan for Paul

*But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."* ***Acts 9:15-16***

1. Paul’s journey to Rome was difficult.

*The whole city was aroused, and the people came running from all directions. Seizing Paul, they dragged him from the temple, and immediately the gates were shut.
While they were trying to kill him, news reached the commander of the Roman troops that the whole city of Jerusalem was in an uproar. He at once took some officers and soldiers and ran down to the crowd. When the rioters saw the commander and his soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.* ***Acts 21:30-32***

*When a gentle south wind began to blow, they thought they had obtained what they wanted; so, they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete.
Before very long, a wind of hurricane force, called the "northeaster," swept down from the island.*

***Acts 27:13-14***

1. What we can lose in a storm:
* What is important

*We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands.*

***Acts 27:18-19***

* Hope

*When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.* ***Acts 27:20***

1. What we can gain in a storm:

*After the men had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss. But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. Last night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood beside me and said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.' So, keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me. Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island."* ***Acts 27:21-26***

* God’s presence and purpose
* That leads to our purpose.
1. Our journey is difficult, but we know our destination.

*For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.* ***Acts 28:30-31***