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## Listen and Look Up!

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**Introduction:** Paul, along with other prisoners, is on his way to Rome. The time of travel was late September or early October. The weather was rough and the journey dangerous. Paul did not believe that it was a good idea for them to travel. They did not listen to him and set sail. They encountered sever wind and all was lost but the lives of all the people God was looked after the men due to His favor on Paul's life.

### **Text: Acts 27**

#### **Discussion:**

1. Icebreaker: Write/discuss of a time when you did not heed godly counsel and then when you did heed godly council. How did both of the situations turn out?
2. Why do you think that the men did not listen to Paul's advice?
3. What is the difference between the world's wisdom and the God's wisdom? How can you discern between what is a good decision over that which is a godly decision and what is the difference between the two?
4. Why is it important to listen to the Holy Spirit, the word of God, and advice from godly men and women?
5. There are times that we are in a storm due to our own choosing. We make the wrong decision. We must not blame others, but confess our sin and call unto God for forgiveness and help. What storms in your life is a result of your own choice?
6. There are times that we are in a storm due to others choosing. Abuse, abandonment, a tragic accident, etc. What do you do when you find yourself in a storm that is not your fault?
7. What did the Lord do for Paul in the midst of the storm?
8. How did Paul respond to the voice of God?
9. How can you learn to listen and look to God to help you through the storms of life?
10. Why did God save all the men in the ship?
11. Paul's life was a blessing to all the me because God's hand was on Paul. Our life should be a blessing to those around us. How can your life be a witness and a blessing to those around you this week?
12. A church should be a blessing to the community in which it exists. Why is it important to be part of a church that God has his hand on?
13. Paul encouraged the men to eat and gave thanks to God in front of them all. He recognized God's protection and gave him the glory. Why is it important to give God thanks and praise in the middle of a storm?
14. How will you listen and look up this week?

#### **Think About it:**

The Lord had his hand on Paul's life. Though Paul was in a storm, God was greater than the storm. The Lord has his hand on his children. We are people of purpose and destiny. He is taking us home to be with him forever. This life is a journey filled with storm tossed waves. Don't get discouraged and abandon ship—instead, listen to the voice of God and look unto him who is the author and perfecter of our faith!

#### **Moving Forward:**

Pray this week for wisdom. Listen to the Holy Spirit and the word of God. Seek godly counsel in every decision you make. If you are in a storm be reminded of the promises of God for His children. Read, pray, and obey God's truth. Give thanks to God at all times.