



The Fourth Missionary Journey

Acts 21:19-28:31

“Then Paul answered, ‘Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.’”

Acts 21:13 (NIV)

A. God’s Provision Through Testimony

1. Paul began with who he was.

“I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the Lord’s people in prison, and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them. Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished, and I tried to force them to blaspheme. I was so obsessed with persecuting them that I even hunted them down in foreign cities.” Acts 26:9-11 (NIV)

2. Paul continued with who he was called to be.

“‘About noon, King Agrippa, as I was on the road, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, blazing around me and my companions. We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ Then I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ the Lord replied. ‘Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of Me. I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and

turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.’” Acts 26:13-18 (NIV)

3. Paul ended with his mission.

“Then Agrippa said to Paul, ‘Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?’

Paul replied, ‘Short time or long—I pray to God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains.’” Acts 26:28-29 (NIV)

B. God’s Provision Through Trials

1. Paul was not spared from the storm.

“When a gentle south wind began to blow, they saw their opportunity; 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. The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along.” Acts 27:13-15 (NIV)

2. Paul trusted God over man.

“‘Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong 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 27:23-26 (NIV)

3. Paul was delivered by obedient faith.

“In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, ‘Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved.’ So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it drift away.”

Acts 27:30-32 (NIV)

C. God’s Provision Through the Church

1. Pray for opportunities to share your faith.

“I can’t impress this on you too strongly. God is looking over your shoulder. Christ Himself is the Judge, with the final say on everyone, living and dead. He is about to break into the open with His rule, so proclaim the Message with intensity; keep on your watch. Challenge, warn, and urge your people. Don’t ever quit. Just keep it simple.”

2 Timothy 4:1-2 (MSG)

2. Pray that your trials shine Jesus.

“In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.” 1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV)

3. Pray for the Church to be a pleasing display.

“‘But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’”

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

As the Church:

We form one body (Romans 12:5) and are told to accept one another (Romans 15:7), instruct one another (Romans 15:14), greet one another (Romans 16:16), serve one another (Galatians 5:13), carry each other’s burdens (Galatians 6:2), be patient, bearing with one another in love (Ephesians 4:2), submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21), and encourage one another, as well as build one another up (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

-Taken from The Jesus Bible, Max Lucado

Bottom Line:

The Church: Jesus on display to the world.

To begin a relationship with Jesus...

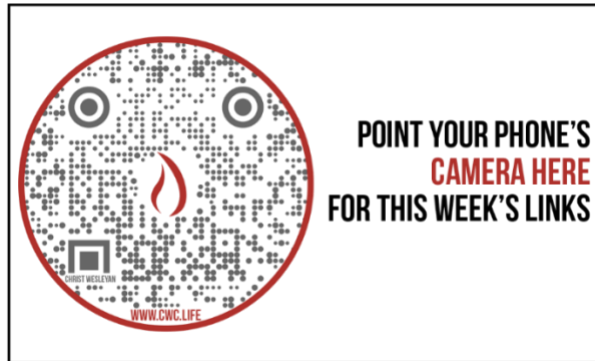
Text: “Jesus” to 570-273-0088

Next Sunday: A New Series: Reach

Week 1: REACH The Lost

Milton Campus: Pastor Branden Mestach

Sunbury Campus: Pastor Billy Robel



Giving & Attendance Update

Giving last Sunday: 65.2% of goal

Giving year to date: 83.1% of goal

Attendance Last Weekend: 1,854

Salvations to date: 44 | Baptisms to date: 51

Upcoming Happenings:

October 12: Food Packing Party

October 25: Trunk or Treat – 6:30p

October 5, 12, 19, 26 and November 2: Prayer
(Auditorium) 6p-7p

Notetakers are History Makers