



**September 5 and 8**

**Steve Cuss**

**PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:**

Acts 27 and 28

**SECONDARY SCRIPTURE:**

Phil 3:10

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. How was your week? Where have you seen God at work this week?
2. Last week Randy challenged us to craft our spiritual story and also to share it with at least one person. How did that go? If you didn't do it, what hindered you? How about this week?
3. Read Acts 27 and 28 together. It is obviously a long passage, so I suggest breaking it up and people reading some each. What strikes you? What does it make you wonder? What is your response to anything you read?
4. In Acts 27, Paul talks about God 'to whom I belong and whom I serve.' What does that phrase conjure in you?
5. In the message, Steve pointed out that Paul's conversion journey was from the sovereignty of God revealed in Judaism to the sovereignty of God revealed in the person of Jesus. But that our conversion is much more difficult and a larger faith leap: from sovereignty of self to sovereignty of God revealed in Jesus. What is your response to this?
6. What areas of your life do you trust God as sovereign and what areas do you struggle?
7. Steve also pointed out that much of western Christianity struggles with control and our language of faith often starts with us, not God. 'I found Jesus, I turned to Jesus, I gave my life to Christ, I asked Jesus into my heart, etc. 'I, I, I.' The good news is much better than that. Jesus found us. Jesus turned to us. Jesus gave his life for us. Jesus made room for us. How might this shift your thinking about God's sovereignty?
8. In the midst of a storm and certain shipwreck, Paul pauses and 'Eucharists.' He gives thanks, breaks bread and shares a moment with people - fellow believers, soldiers etc. 'Eucharist' simply means to be thankful and your thankfulness is directed to God. Not an aimless thankfulness, an intentional one. When have you been in a 'storm' and had to remember to be thankful to God. Did it help?
9. Acts 28 ends abruptly - Paul is under house arrest, but he is free to share the gospel which he does 'without hindrance' Take a moment to thank God for the good news and ask God who God might be calling you to share it with this week.