

**“The Wind”**  
*Sermon Notes*

➤ **You don’t control the world**

*\* Weathering life’s ups and downs means knowing that...*

1. Sometimes the winds are in your favor (1-3)

2. Sometimes the winds are in your face (4-12)

➤ **Let Christ be your Anchor (2 Cor 11:24-12:10; Psalm 121)**

**Next Week: Acts 27:13-38 “The Storm”**

## MEFC Study Guide

For the week of Jan 26th - February 1st

### Context

1. It's been a little while since we have been in Acts. Since Acts 21, Paul has been traveling through the legal system of Judea and Rome. Recall what has taken place, the charges against Paul, who Paul has spoken to, how Paul has handled himself, and where the story is heading.
2. What do you learn about the author of Acts, Luke, in Acts 27:1-12? Hint: Notice all the nautical references. What does this tell you about Luke?

### Observation

3. What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does Luke describe them?
  - a. What do you learn about Julius?
  - b. What do you learn about Aristarchus (see also Acts 19:29; 20:4; Col 4:10-12; Philemon 23-24)?
  - c. What do you learn about Paul?
  - d. What do you learn about the captain and the ship owner?

4. Is time or place significant in the events that happen?

a. What do you know, if at all, about the locations of:

a. Sidon (see Acts 15:3)

b. Modern Turkey (ancient Cilicia, Pamphylia, Myra, Adramyttium)

c. The islands of Cyprus and Crete

“There was a temple in Athene there {on Salmone}, whose name may have been of Phoenician origin derived from a term describing a refuge from exposure to the wind.” What does this commentator’s historical background add to the story?

d. Alexandria in Egypt (imagine what grain production and shipping across the Mediterranean was like)

b. What is The Fast — the Day of Atonement (see Leviticus 16:29-34; 23:27-32)? The Day of Atonement happened in the fall, late September or early October. One commentator offers a historical reference “According to Vegetius, navigation on the Mediterranean was safe until September 14, uncertain until November 11, and “closed” from November until March 10.” What clue does this give you about what was going on with the weather?

c. What are the many dangers that the winter season brings to travel by sea?

5. Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?
  
6. What surprises you in this text?
  
7. What is the main point or theme in this section of Acts?

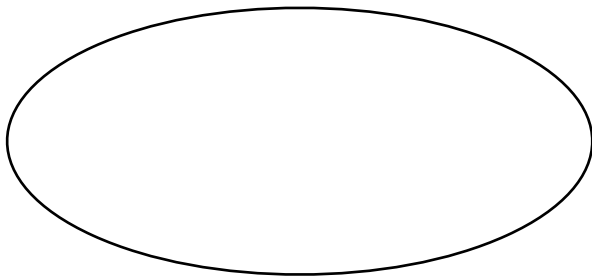
**Meaning**

8. There are important themes in Acts 27 that require study of the rest of the story. How does this passage set the stage for what comes next in the story?
  
9. What does the passage reveal about God?
  
10. What does this passage reveal about God's people — that is, what do you learn from the life of Paul?
  
11. Summarize the meaning of this passage in one sentence in your own words:

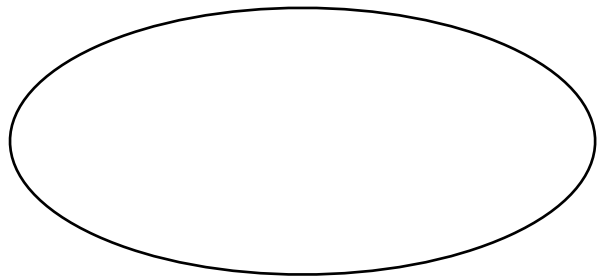
**Application**

12. How is your life similar or different from the realities of this passage?

13. Head: How does this passage challenge (or confirm) what I believe: what I understand about God, his world, and myself? What do I think I have control over? What does God control?



My control



God's control

14. Heart: Is there some attitude I need to change? How does this passage shape my desires and affections? When the forces of this world (human or nature) blow against me, what am I tempted to long for and pursue?

15. Hands: How does this passage exhort me to change the way I live? How can I be a “non-anxious presence” in the face of the variable “winds of life” (see 2 Corinthians 11-12)?