

Pastor Dave Rohde

For Sunday, August 9th "When the Wind Changes"

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 – NIV

- ¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his love endures forever.
- ² Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story—
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,
- ³ those he gathered from the lands,
from east and west, from north and south.
- ²³ Some went out on the sea in ships;
they were merchants on the mighty waters.
- ²⁴ They saw the works of the Lord,
his wonderful deeds in the deep.
- ²⁵ For he spoke and stirred up a tempest
that lifted high the waves.
- ²⁶ They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths;
in their peril their courage melted away.
- ²⁷ They reeled and staggered like drunkards;
they were at their wits' end.
- ²⁸ Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble,
and he brought them out of their distress.
- ²⁹ He stilled the storm to a whisper;
the waves of the sea were hushed.
- ³⁰ They were glad when it grew calm,
and he guided them to their desired haven.
- ³¹ Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love
and his wonderful deeds for mankind.
- ³² Let them exalt him in the assembly of the people
and praise him in the council of the elders.

Jonah 1:3-6 – NIV

- ³ But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the Lord.
- ⁴ Then the Lord sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵ All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship.

But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. ⁶ The captain went to him and said, "How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us so that we will not perish."

Acts 27:13-26 – NIV

¹³ When a gentle south wind began to blow, they saw their opportunity; so they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete. ¹⁴ Before very long, a wind of hurricane force, called the Northeaster, swept down from the island. ¹⁵ The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along. ¹⁶ As we passed to the lee of a small island called Cauda, we were hardly able to make the lifeboat secure, ¹⁷ so the men hoisted it aboard. Then they passed ropes under the ship itself to hold it together. Because they were afraid they would run aground on the sandbars of Syrtis, they lowered the sea anchor and let the ship be driven along. ¹⁸ We took such a violent battering from the storm that the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard. ¹⁹ On the third day, they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. ²⁰ When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.

²¹ After they 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. ²² But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. ²³ Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me ²⁴ 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.' ²⁵ So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me. ²⁶ Nevertheless, we must run aground on some island."

Takeaway: We can navigate life's inevitable storms by remembering whose we are and whom we serve.

Questions:

1. What are some of the routines and rhythms we can set to prepare us for seasons of difficulty?
2. Compare the storms of Jonah 1 and Acts 27. What is similar? What is different?
3. Reflect on Acts 27:9–13. Paul urged the crew not to leave Crete, but they trusted the captain and the favorable wind instead. How do you discern the difference between wisdom, popular opinion, and God's leading?

Sermon: <https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20260809.mp3>

Service Video: <https://youtu.be/uwnBwVg6Opo>

Alternate Service Video: <https://wpcwestlake.livecontrol.tv/88850c73>