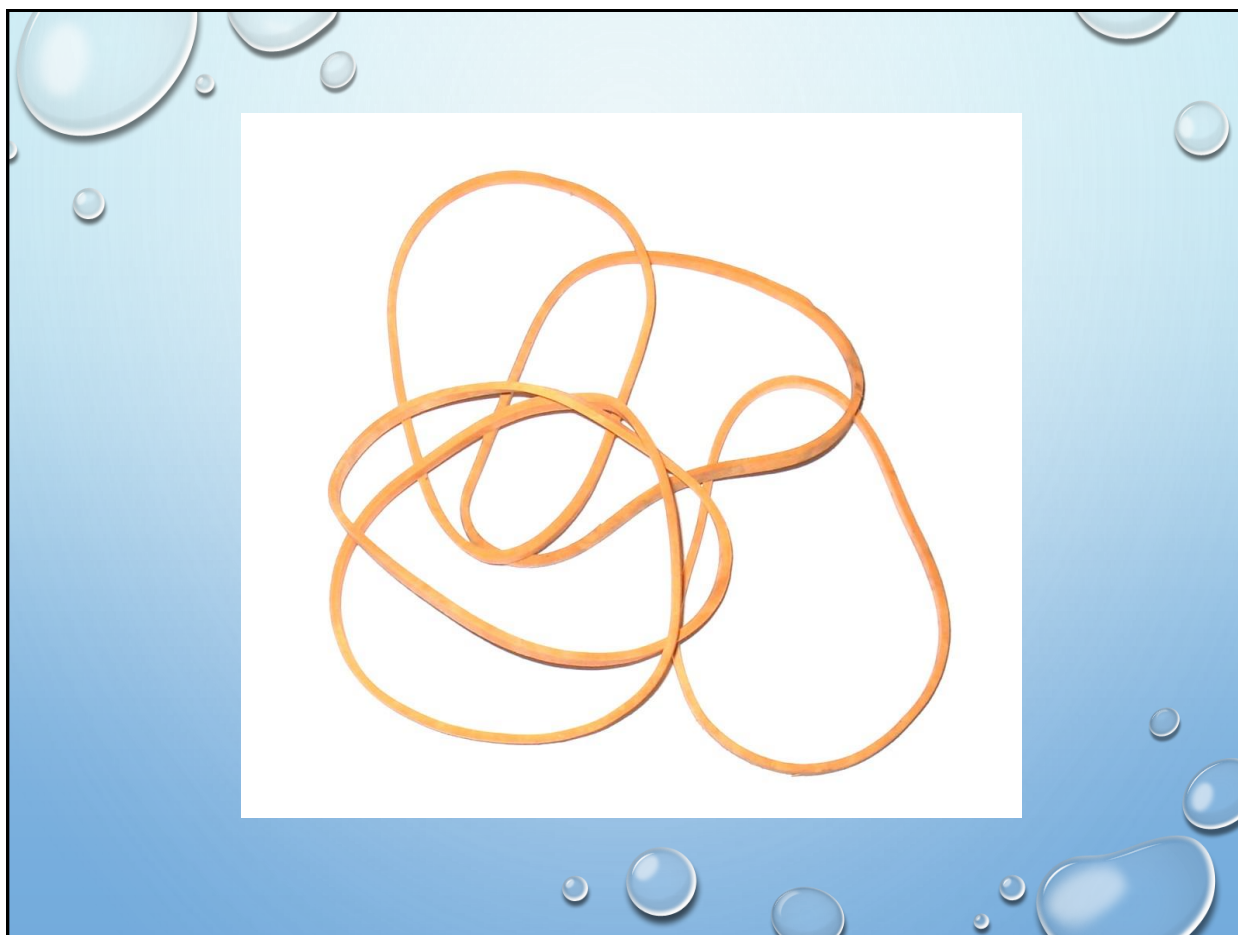




LIVING WITH PURPOSE

DWELLING IN SAFETY





EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

1. WHEN IT COMES TO OUR PLANS
2. WHEN IT COMES TO WHO WE MINISTER TO
3. WHEN IT COMES TO HOW OTHERS TURN OUT

COPING WITH THE UNEXPECTED

1. SEEK GOD'S GLORY AND KINGDOM
2. PRAY FOR NECESSITIES
3. RECOGNIZE DEPENDENCE ON GOD

Acts 23:33, Arriving In Caesarea

Acts 23:33 When the cavalry arrived in Caesarea, they delivered the letter to the governor and handed Paul over to him.



PAUL BEFORE FESTUS

1. THE PLOT REVIVED (25:1-5)
2. THE PLOT RUINED (25:6-12)

1. THE PLOT REVIVED (25:1-5)

- ^{NIV} **ACTS 25:1** THREE DAYS AFTER ARRIVING IN THE PROVINCE, FESTUS WENT UP FROM CAESAREA TO JERUSALEM, ² WHERE THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND JEWISH LEADERS APPEARED BEFORE HIM AND PRESENTED THE CHARGES AGAINST PAUL. ³ THEY URGENTLY REQUESTED FESTUS, AS A FAVOR TO THEM, TO HAVE PAUL TRANSFERRED TO JERUSALEM, FOR THEY WERE PREPARING AN AMBUSH TO KILL HIM ALONG THE WAY. ⁴ FESTUS ANSWERED, "PAUL IS BEING HELD AT CAESAREA, AND I MYSELF AM GOING THERE SOON. ⁵ LET SOME OF YOUR LEADERS COME WITH ME AND PRESS CHARGES AGAINST THE MAN THERE, IF HE HAS DONE ANYTHING WRONG."



2. THE PLOT RUINED (25:6-12)

INNOCENCE OF PAUL

- ^{ESV} **ACTS 25:8** PAUL ARGUED IN HIS DEFENSE, "NEITHER AGAINST THE LAW OF THE JEWS, NOR AGAINST THE TEMPLE, NOR AGAINST CAESAR HAVE I COMMITTED ANY OFFENSE." ⁹ BUT FESTUS, WISHING TO DO THE JEWS A FAVOR, SAID TO PAUL, "DO YOU WISH TO GO UP TO JERUSALEM AND THERE BE TRIED ON THESE CHARGES BEFORE ME?"

UNJUSTNESS OF FESTUS

- ^{NIV} **ACTS 25:10** PAUL ANSWERED: "I AM NOW STANDING BEFORE CAESAR'S COURT, WHERE I OUGHT TO BE TRIED ...
 - FESTUS, NOT THE JEWS, SHOULD BE TRYING PAUL
- ^{NIV} **ACTS 25:10** ... I HAVE NOT DONE ANY WRONG TO THE JEWS, AS YOU YOURSELF KNOW VERY WELL.
 - FESTUS KNEW PAUL WAS INNOCENT
- ^{NIV} **ACTS 25:11** IF, HOWEVER, I AM GUILTY OF DOING ANYTHING DESERVING DEATH, I DO NOT REFUSE TO DIE. BUT IF THE CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST ME BY THESE JEWS ARE NOT TRUE, NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO HAND ME OVER TO THEM ...
 - FESTUS WAS ON THE VERGE OF BREAKING ROMAN LAW

PAUL'S BREAKING POINT

- ^{NIV} **ACTS 25:11** ... NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO HAND ME OVER TO THEM. I APPEAL TO CAESAR!

PAUL'S LEAP OF FAITH

- ^{ESV} **ACTS 19:21** NOW AFTER THESE EVENTS PAUL RESOLVED IN THE SPIRIT TO PASS THROUGH MACEDONIA AND ACHAIA AND GO TO JERUSALEM, SAYING, "AFTER I HAVE BEEN THERE, I MUST ALSO SEE ROME."
- ^{ESV} **ROMANS 15:24** ...I HAVE LONGED FOR MANY YEARS TO COME TO YOU.... ²⁵ AT PRESENT, HOWEVER, I AM GOING TO JERUSALEM BRINGING AID TO THE SAINTS. ²⁶ FOR MACEDONIA AND ACHAIA HAVE BEEN PLEASED TO MAKE SOME CONTRIBUTION FOR THE POOR AMONG THE SAINTS AT JERUSALEM.
- ^{ESV} **ACTS 23:11** THE FOLLOWING NIGHT THE LORD STOOD BY HIM AND SAID, "TAKE COURAGE, FOR AS YOU HAVE TESTIFIED TO THE FACTS ABOUT ME IN JERUSALEM, SO YOU MUST TESTIFY ALSO IN ROME."

COPING WITH THE UNEXPECTED

1. SEEK GOD'S GLORY AND KINGDOM
2. PRAY FOR NECESSITIES
3. RECOGNIZE DEPENDENCE ON GOD



GOD HEARS US

- ^{ESV} **PSALM 4:1** ... ANSWER ME WHEN I CALL, O GOD OF MY RIGHTEOUSNESS! YOU HAVE GIVEN ME RELIEF WHEN I WAS IN DISTRESS. BE GRACIOUS TO ME AND HEAR MY PRAYER! ² O MEN, HOW LONG SHALL MY HONOR BE TURNED INTO SHAME? HOW LONG WILL YOU LOVE VAIN WORDS AND SEEK AFTER LIES? ... ³ BUT KNOW THAT THE LORD HAS SET APART THE GODLY FOR HIMSELF; THE LORD HEARS WHEN I CALL TO HIM.

SEEK/PRAY/RECOGNIZE

- ^{NAS} **PSALM 4:4** TREMBLE, AND DO NOT SIN; MEDITATE IN YOUR HEART UPON YOUR BED, AND BE STILL. ... ⁵ OFFER THE SACRIFICES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND TRUST IN THE LORD. ⁶ MANY ARE SAYING, "WHO WILL SHOW US ANY GOOD?" LIFT UP THE LIGHT OF THY COUNTENANCE UPON US, O LORD!

DEPEND COMPLETELY ON GOD

- ^{ESV} **PSALM 4:7** YOU HAVE PUT MORE JOY IN MY HEART THAN THEY HAVE WHEN THEIR GRAIN AND WINE ABOUND. ⁸ IN PEACE I WILL BOTH LIE DOWN AND SLEEP; FOR YOU ALONE, O LORD, MAKE ME DWELL IN SAFETY.

- ^{ESV} **PSALM 4:8** IN PEACE I WILL BOTH LIE DOWN AND SLEEP; FOR YOU ALONE, O LORD, MAKE ME DWELL IN SAFETY.





CONCLUSIONS

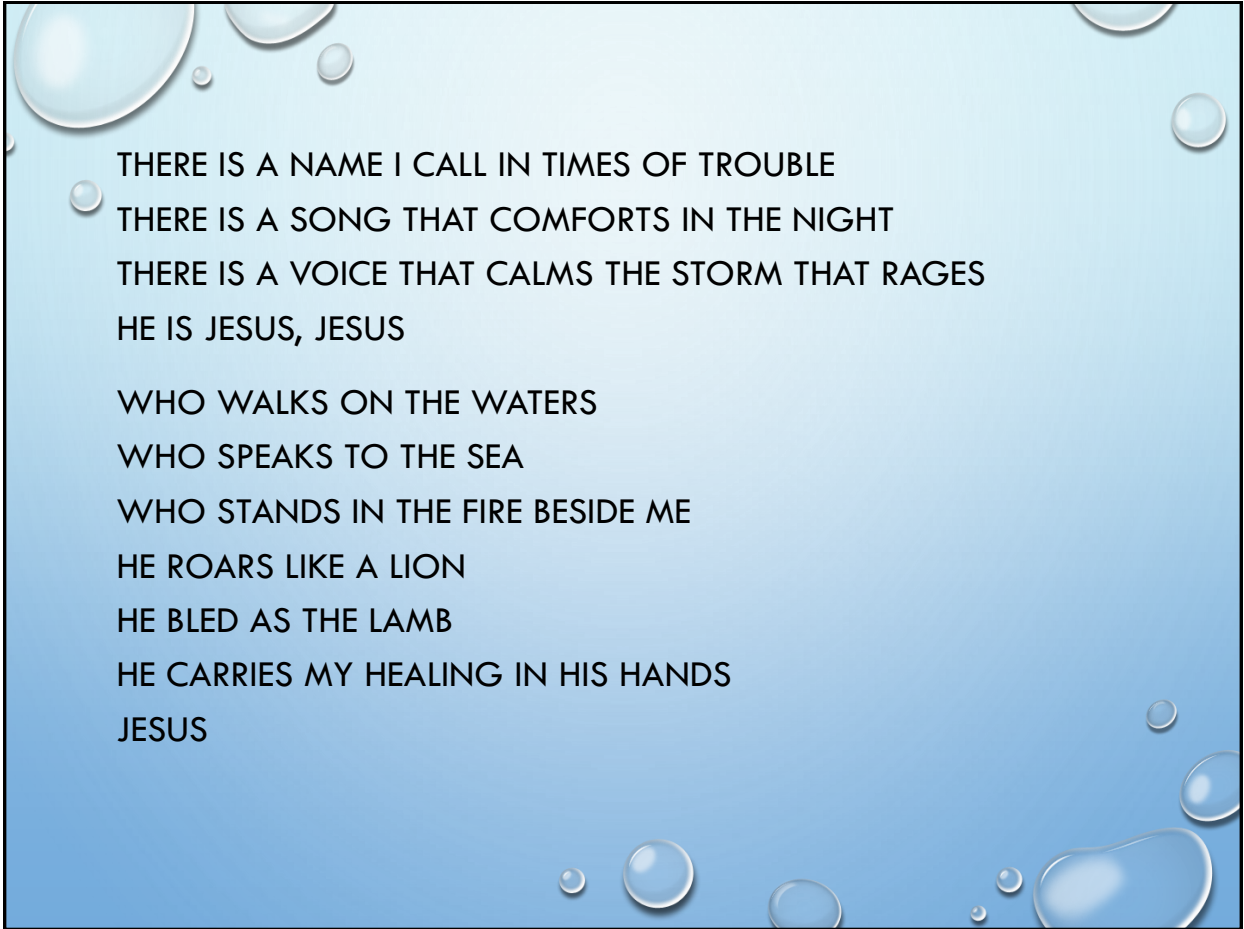
DWELLING IN SAFETY

1. SEEK GOD'S GLORY AND KINGDOM
2. PRAY FOR NECESSITIES
3. RECOGNIZE DEPENDENCE ON GOD

DWELLING IN CHRIST

THERE IS A TRUTH OLDER THAN THE AGES
THERE IS A PROMISE OF THINGS YET TO COME
THERE IS ONE, BORN FOR OUR SALVATION
JESUS

THERE IS A LIGHT THAT OVERWHELMS THE DARKNESS
THERE IS A KINGDOM THAT FOREVER REIGNS
THERE IS FREEDOM FROM THE CHAINS THAT BIND US
JESUS, JESUS



THERE IS A NAME I CALL IN TIMES OF TROUBLE
THERE IS A SONG THAT COMFORTS IN THE NIGHT
THERE IS A VOICE THAT CALMS THE STORM THAT RAGES
HE IS JESUS, JESUS

WHO WALKS ON THE WATERS
WHO SPEAKS TO THE SEA
WHO STANDS IN THE FIRE BESIDE ME
HE ROARS LIKE A LION
HE BLED AS THE LAMB
HE CARRIES MY HEALING IN HIS HANDS
JESUS