

# “Road Trip – Postcards from Acts”

## Dead End: Rome

### Acts 28

8/21–8/22, 2010

#### Study Questions designed for you, your family, friends or small group

1. Have you ever ‘dreamed’ of going to a certain destination or on a certain vacation, and then once there, realized it wasn’t the trip you were counting on?
2. Throughout his whole life, Paul longs to get to Rome. In his writing to the Romans, he uses language like: “I urge..., I pray..., I long..., I am eager.... What do you think drove his determination to reach this city?
3. In Chapter 27, on his way to Rome, Paul experienced some really difficult situations. What could these be attributed to? How did Paul gain the respect and leadership of the ship’s crew?
4. What is the promise that was given to Paul in Acts 27:24-26?
5. When Paul arrives in Rome, what principle did he continue to follow?
6. Paul literally spent close to 5 years of his life at what appeared to be a ‘Dead End’. Two in Caesarea prison, two under house arrest in Rome, and a year in voyage between Caesarea and Rome. Were they wasted years? Explain.
7. List a few advantages of Paul’s apostleship that were strengthened because he was a prisoner?
8. God answered Paul’s dream of reaching Rome through His providence; however He did so through undesired conditions, as a prisoner. How have you seen God work in this way in your life, answering promises but not in the way you expected?
9. How have you accepted the providence of God in your life? Is it easy for you to see that God has orchestrated and allowed the situations in your life to unfold or do you tend to naturally resist what is happening?
10. Are you feeling like you are at a Dead End? Share your story. The choice you have is to allow your sufferings to authenticate your ministry or to ‘turn back’.
11. What final words ring familiar in the last verse of Acts? “Boldly” and “without hinderance” have been the themes all throughout Acts. Are there any apparent adverse circumstances in your life which look different in the light of Paul’s experiences?