

## SERVING THROUGH THE SUFFERING

### Acts 28:1-15

God sets the stage for our gospel witness;

1. God gives us opportunities with the **right people** (v.1-2).
  - a. They needed Malta and Malta **needed them**.
  - b. The shipwrecked saints and sinners were at the mercy of the island natives but the island natives were at the **mercy of God**.
2. God gives us opportunities through **acts of service** (v.3a). This is easy to miss.
  - a. God's servants are not **elite**.
  - b. God's servants serve in **menial tasks** (Mark 10:45).
3. God gives us opportunities according to His **providence** (v.3b-9).
  - a. God plans events in our lives that we **would never plan** (v.3b-4).
  - b. God opens doors that we could **never open** (v.5-9).

4. God gives us opportunities along with **provisions** (v.10-15).
  - a. God provides the **light** for people in darkness (v.11a).
  - b. God provides **supplies** for the rest of the journey (v.10).
  - c. God provides all things **necessary** to arrive at our destination (v.11b-13).
  - d. God provides **encouragement** to finish our journey (v.15).

Take this with you:

Life is not just about the **destination**; it is about the **journey**.

Every storm, shipwreck, trial and snakebite is **ordained** of God.

Be watching for the **Malta** moments in your life.

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