



# LIFE Group Discussion Guide

April 19, 2026

## *Acts 28:1-16*

### **CONVERSATION STARTERS**

What are some highs or lows you experienced this past week?

What Scripture has been shaping you recently?

Where have you seen God moving in your life this week?

What did you hear in today's sermon OR read in today's passage that you would like to discuss?

What did you learn about yourself in today's sermon/passage?

What did you learn about God in today's sermon/passage?

What convicted you as you listened to today's sermon OR read in today's passage?

### **OPENING**

Sometimes God's faithfulness shows up not in dramatic rescues, but in steady provision — the right people, the right timing, and strength for the next step.

Paul had endured storm, loss, and uncertainty, yet God was still guiding every detail. Malta was not a detour from God's plan; it was part of it.

Reflect: When have you seen God provide for you in unexpected ways during a difficult season?

---

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

Read **Acts 28:1–16** together. As you read, notice:

- The kindness shown to Paul and the others
- How God protects Paul in a moment of danger
- The ways Paul continues living on mission even while waiting

---

## **PASSAGE SUMMARY**

After surviving the shipwreck, Paul and the others arrive on the island of Malta, where they are shown unexpected kindness by the islanders. Even there, hardship continues when Paul is bitten by a viper, yet God protects him and uses the moment as a testimony to those watching. Paul ministers to the sick, and many are healed.

Eventually, the journey resumes, and Paul makes his way toward Rome — the very destination God had promised he would reach. This passage highlights God’s provision through people, protection through danger, and faithfulness to complete His purposes.

---

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

**What stands out about the islanders’ response to the shipwreck survivors?**

They showed unusual kindness, reminding us that God often works through unexpected people.

**How does Paul respond to the viper incident, and what does it reveal about his faith?**

He remains calm and unharmed, trusting God rather than reacting in fear.

**Why is it significant that Paul immediately begins serving others on Malta?**

His mission didn’t pause because of hardship; he continued to live with purpose.

**What does this passage teach us about God’s protection?**

God’s protection doesn’t remove all danger, but it ensures His purposes are fulfilled.

**How do you see God’s provision through both miracles and ordinary hospitality?**

Healing and simple kindness both reveal God’s care.

**Why is waiting often part of God’s plan in our lives?**

Waiting seasons prepare us, deepen trust, and open new ministry opportunities.

**What encourages you about God’s faithfulness to bring Paul all the way to Rome?**

God always completes what He promises, even through long and difficult journeys.

Where might God be asking you to remain faithful in the “in-between” season of life?

---

## DIG DEEPER

- Philippians 1:6 — God finishes what He begins.
- Romans 8:28 — God works through all circumstances for His purposes.
- 2 Timothy 4:17 — The Lord stands with His servants and gives strength.

Discuss how these verses connect to Paul’s experience in this passage.

---

## APPLICATION

Where have you recently experienced God’s provision through people or circumstances?

How can you stay spiritually faithful while waiting for what’s next?

Who might God want you to serve right where you are, even if this season feels temporary?

---

## CLOSING THOUGHT

Malta may have seemed like an unexpected stop, but it was filled with divine purpose. God wastes no season, no hardship, and no delay. Like Paul, we are called to trust that every step — even the unplanned ones — is held in the hands of a faithful God.

---

## LOOKING AHEAD

Next week we will conclude our study of Acts with a discussion on **Acts 28:17–31**, focusing on Paul’s witness in Rome and the continued spread of the gospel despite opposition.

---

## PRAYER FOCUS

- Thank God for His provision, protection, and faithfulness in every season.
- Ask for endurance to remain faithful in both active and waiting times.
- Pray specifically for the invitation portion of our worship services—that hearts would be open, the Spirit would move powerfully, and people would respond in obedient faith.

---

## COMMENTARY

### Acts 28:1-16

**Acts 28:1-10** The ship on which Paul was traveling as a prisoner wrecked on the island of Malta, which is south of Sicily. Paul immediately impressed the island's inhabitants when God delivered him unharmed from a viper's bite. Paul carried out a ministry of healing among the islanders. In turn, they honored him in many ways.

**Acts 11-16** After the winter had passed and the seas were again safe for travel, Paul's party secured passage to Italy on another Alexandrian ship that had wintered on Malta. They sailed from Malta to Syracuse, the capital of Sicily, and from there to Puteoli, the main Italian port for the large grain ships. From Puteoli Paul's party proceeded on foot the 130 miles to Rome. South of the city he was met by two separate groups of Roman Christians who had come out to greet him. Once in the city, Paul was allowed to live in an apartment rented at his own expense. He remained under military guard.