



# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

### God in the Storms of Life Series, Lesson 55

**Lesson Title:** Paul Tells His Story

**Take Home Point:** Tell what Jesus has done for you.

#### **Warm-Up:**

I consider our family doctor to be quite competent. He has always provided good service to me and my family when we needed medical attention. So, when someone asks me to recommend a general practitioner, or I am relating to someone how he helped us recently, what do you suppose I talk about? Do I mention the undergraduate and medical schools he attended, what fine credentials he has, the position he holds in a national medical association, or what excellent facilities he has? Not usually, no. I tell someone how he determined what was really wrong and what his medical counsel required to correct, improve, or recover from my condition. I tell them the story of how he made me better physically. That's what people really want to know – "Can he help me, too?"

**Read:** Acts 26 and 1 Peter 3:15

#### **Observation (What happened?):**

What episode was at the heart of Paul's defense?

What was King Agrippa's view of Paul's guilt or innocence?

#### **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**

What attitude did Paul display during his defense?

How do you think Paul felt about his past activities as he related them to his audience?

#### **Insight:**

When King Agrippa gave the floor to Paul for his defense, what did Paul do? Did he start with Genesis and go all the way through the scripture explaining about Jesus Christ and the need for the King and all others to believe or perish? No, he told his story of how God mercifully rescued him from his path of destruction. It seems to me that too often today, Christians are quick to quote the Bible in their conversation but slow to talk about what Jesus has done for them. Don't misunderstand – I know the Bible is God's powerful truth and tells us his way of redemption. But I wonder if we aren't missing a lesson in Paul's speech; after all, the word "witness" means to give a true account of what we "see or know by personal presence and perception," which is all Paul did. We are being transformed from darkness to light. That's a story that others need to hear – "Can he help me, too?"

#### **Application (What does it mean to me?):**

What is your story of rescue from darkness into light? Who needs to hear it? How will you tell them?

Pray for the children in your small group to clearly grasp and accept the rescue Jesus offers, no matter what they have done.