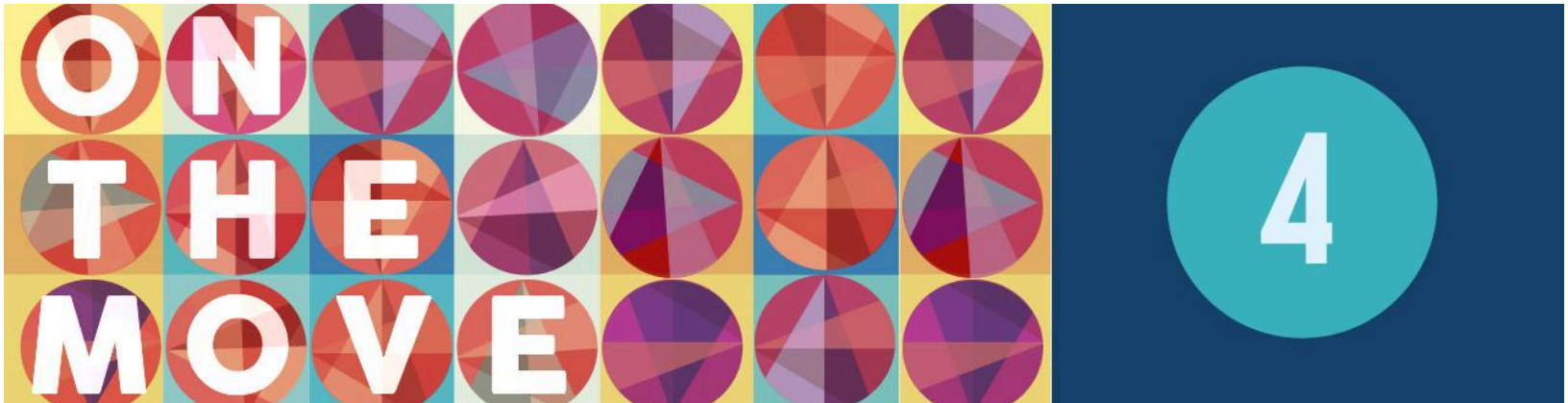




Introduction:

Life doesn't stand still, and neither does God. In this series, we'll journey through Scripture to discover that God is always at work, even when we can't see Him clearly. In learning from Old Testament stories, we'll see that God isn't distant from our struggles — He's moving through them.

Scripture:

But the weather changed abruptly, and a wind of typhoon strength (called a “northeaster”) burst across the island and blew us out to sea. The sailors couldn’t turn the ship into the wind, so they gave up and let it run before the gale.

We sailed along the sheltered side of a small island named Cauda, where with great difficulty we hoisted aboard the lifeboat being towed behind us. Then the sailors bound ropes around the hull of the ship to strengthen it. They were afraid of being driven across to the sandbars of Syrtis off the African coast, so they lowered the sea anchor to slow the ship and were driven before the wind.

The next day, as gale-force winds continued to batter the ship, the crew began throwing the cargo overboard. The following day they even took some of the ship’s gear and threw it overboard. The terrible storm raged for many days, blotting out the sun and the stars, until at last all hope was gone.

– Acts 27:14 – 20



Discussion Questions:

1. Do you watch documentaries? What kind do you enjoy most, and why?
2. Think of a time when life changed abruptly, like weather suddenly turning. What was happening beforehand, and what did that change bring into your life?
3. Have you ever felt like all hope was gone? What did that season feel like?
4. What are you carrying right now that feels heavy? What would it look like to set some of that weight down?
5. What usually happens first when you're in crisis — do you go to God, or do you run it by other people first? What might change if God were your first stop instead of your last resort?
6. What situation in your life right now requires you to trust that God is exactly who he says he is?
7. Have you ever worshiped in the middle of feeling completely wrecked? What was that like?
8. When have you held on to broken pieces and found that it was enough for God to redeem you or your situation?
9. What is your Next Step this week?