**Antigo Community Church - 11/28/21**

**Along for the Ride**

**Acts 28:1-31**

**Along for the Ride**

**Paul’s Ride**

**Acts 9:15-16 “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”**

**Scripture Reading**

**Acts 28:17-31 (NIV)**

**Paul’s final “speech” in the book of Acts:**

**I’m here – in chains – because of the “hope of Israel” – the long-awaited Messiah!**

**Isaiah 7:14 “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”**

**Isaiah 9:1-2 “…in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan – The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.”**

**Isaiah 9:6-7 “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called – Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.”**

**Isaiah 53:5-7, 9, 12 “But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth…He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth…Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.”**

**The Result: Both predictable and predicted!**

**Acts 28:26-27 “’Go to this people and say, “You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.” For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.’”**

**Ponder as you go:**

**Along for the ride…**

**Requires:**

1. **Surrender**
2. **Trust – God never acts contrary to His revealed character; therefore, I can trust Him with abandon**

**Produces:**

1. **Contentment - Phil. 4:11b-13**
2. **Gratefulness – Col. 3:16-17**

**Believers - Enjoy the ride because you know the Driver!**