

Against the Wind

n/a

Ready:

When a gentle south wind sprang up, they thought they had achieved their purpose; they weighed anchor and sailed along the shore of Crete. But not long afterwards, a fierce wind called the “northeaster” rushed down from the island. — Acts 27:13–14

Set

A centurion named Julius was charged with escorting the imprisoned Paul to Rome. They sailed against Paul’s advice, hoping to reach a new destination before winter. The gentle breeze that blew in encouraged their voyage but then they became trapped in a tremendous fourteen-day storm, costing them their cargo and almost their lives. The majority of those on board had urged the trip forward, and the captain made the mistake of listening to public opinion.

Coaches are subjected to public scrutiny so often that sometimes it seems easier to give in to the “harmless gentle breeze.” However, God’s will is frequently not found in the opinions of the majority. While it is always good to seek the wisdom of godly friends, God’s Word and the Holy Spirit must ultimately determine our course. Remember the words of coach Dan Henning, “Popularity is somewhere between Palm Sunday and Good Friday.” Sometimes in my career, I have allowed the desire for popularity to affect my commitment to Christ, and I have regretted those decisions. How about you?

Go

1. As a coach, do you want your players to respect you more than glamorize you?
2. Do you sometimes make decisions against your better judgment?
3. Sometimes when you are right, do you feel like you are running “against the wind?”

Workout

Extra Reading: Psalms 118:8–9, 119:9–11; Matthew 6:19–21; Acts 27

Overtime

Dear Lord, please help me to understand that my level of influence is never greater than when I seek Your wisdom rather than the acceptance of men. Give me the wisdom to make good choices in my life, in my career, and in my relationships. Amen.

Bible Reference:

Acts 27



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