

Is Your Ship Sinking?

The \$450 million Costa Concordia was carrying more than 4,200 passengers and crew when it slammed into a reef and capsized on Friday after the captain made an unauthorized diversion from his programmed route and strayed into the perilous waters.

The ship's operator, *Crociere Costa SpA*, has accused Captain Francesco Schettino of causing the wreck by making the unapproved detour, and the captain has acknowledged carrying out what he called a "tourist navigation" that brought the ship closer to Giglio. Costa has said such a navigational "fly by" was done last Aug. 9-10, after being approved by the company and Giglio port authorities. However, tracking of the ship's August route shows that it actually took the Concordia slightly closer to Giglio than the course that caused Friday's disaster.

Have you run into times that your life feels like one big disaster? Who is captaining the ship of your life? It can seem exciting to test the waters and to take seek a little excitement by steering your life close to the dangerous shoals of the world system and sin. We can often skirt disaster and nothing bad happens, but then the time comes when the apparent same action that didn't result in disaster, or an action that seems even less "risky," ends up costing in disaster.

Captain Schettino was placed under house arrest Tuesday, facing possible charges of manslaughter, causing a shipwreck and abandoning his ship. Schettino claims that he didn't abandon the ship with 100 people still on board but that he ended up in a life raft after he tripped and fell into the water. Audio of Captain Schettino's communications with the coast guard during the crisis reveals an increasingly exasperated coast guard officer ordering Schettino back on board to direct the evacuation, and the captain resisting, saying it was too dark and the ship was tipping.

When you make a bad decision and the consequences result, how do you react? Do you blame others and attempt to "save yourself?" Or, in the midst of the disaster, can you take responsibility for your role and step up to doing your part to minimize the loss, or is that too frightening?

When I try to be the captain of the ship of my life, I make many selfish and foolish mistakes and sometimes end up causing great disasters in the lives of others. For years I kept going right back to the helm, followed by another disaster. When I let Jesus be my captain and I listen to his directives in my Spirit, things go way better and I quit having all those shipwrecks in my life.

Men's Lunch

Monday, January 30; Fireside Room

- **Great meal for only \$3**
- **Stimulating discussion of men's issues from a biblical perspective**
- **Connect with other Christian men**

These lunches have proven to be a great opportunity for men to connect with other men in Cornerstone.

Moving On Divorce Recovery Group

Tuesday Nights, 7 PM @ Cornerstone

This Weeks Topic: Self-esteem

If you have experienced the devastation of divorce and are struggling to overcome the emotions, Cornerstone can help. Join us for our Divorce Recovery Group. This nine week program offers practical help. There is no cost to you and you can join in at any time.

Meeting Topics:

February 7	Moving Through the Loss & Grieving
February 14	Acceptance
February 21	Dealing with Fear
February 28	Dealing with Anger
March 6	Moving towards Forgiveness
March 13	Self Esteem
March 20	Depression & Confusion
March 27	Loneliness
April 3	Children and Divorce

Contact Mark at Cornerstone at 605-886-2242 (Ext. 116) or mark@cumcwat.com

***OA* Recovery Group**

Tuesday Nights, 7 PM @ Cornerstone

Help with Eating Disorders

If you are struggling with eating disorders—over-eating, anorexia, bulimia, etc., Cornerstone can help. Join us for our *OA* Recovery Group. This program offers recovery assistance through a 12-Step program model.

Contact Cornerstone at 605-886-2242 or OA_cum@yahoo.com
