



STUDY GUIDE

VOYAGE 07.31.2016

[set up]

If you knew you were going to have one last opportunity to see some of the people you love and care about, what would be the most important things you would want to communicate?

[digging deeper]

Read Acts 20:17-38 from last weekend's message. In these passages, we see the Apostle Paul gathering the Ephesian elders together. These are men that he probably led to Christ and disciplined early on. What stands out to you as some of the most important messages that Paul shared with them?

In 1 Cor. 11:1, Paul says, "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." As you reflect on the Acts 20 passage, write down some of the attitudes, traits, and actions that Paul shares that are worth imitating. If you are in a LifeGroup, try writing these on a large note sheet. From this list, underline one of the attributes you feel God has allowed you to be strong in and circle one of the attributes you want to grow more in. Elaborate with your LifeGroup.

Look again at Acts 20:22-24. Paul knew that hardship awaited him in Jerusalem. He testified of his determination to be faithful despite the imprisonment and affliction that awaited him. What was most important to Paul?

Why do you feel that the typical American Christian often does not live like that – like their life is not as precious or valuable as fulfilling God's call and will?

What prevents you from living like that?

How does Paul's example of faithfulness and determination to be faithful motivate you to be faithful to the Lord?

What is one prayer you can pray to God to help you increase this desire and determination in your life?

Other verses that can help stir greater faithfulness in our lives:

1 Sam. 12:24 Josh. 24:15 Prov. 3:3 2 Tim. 4:7 Rev. 14:12 Other?

Pick one of the verses in this study to memorize and turn into a prayer to help cultivate greater faithfulness in your life.

How would you summarize the challenge that Paul gave to the elders at Ephesus? Do you know our elders at CVC? Would you take some time to pray for them during this time, that the challenge Paul gave to those elders would be lived out faithfully by our current and future elders at CVC?

Current Elders: Chad Allen, Ron Cleveland, Larry Domzalski, Wayne Douglas, Duane Myatt, Dale Piscura. (Elders in training – Ted Chase, Doug Back, Tim Brooks)

Elders are at the bottom of the following webpage if you want to learn more about them:
<http://www.cvconline.org/about-cvc/the-cvc-team/>

[living it out]

Let this time of application start with the answers you came up with during this study and lead to a focused time of prayer:

- Pray for the two areas that you expressed the desire to grow in for yourself or someone in your LifeGroup.
- Pray over the answers you gave for how to grow in your desire to fulfill God's call and will in your life.
- Pray the memory verse that you selected for this week.
- Pray for the elders and future elders of CVC.
- Don't forget to pray for our city and our nation during this time as well.