

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE - WEEK OF 4/21/24

### ACTS 20: 17-32 ESV

#### SCRIPTURE READING

##### Acts 20: 17-32 ESV

<sup>17</sup> Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. <sup>18</sup> And when they came to him, he said to them: "You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, <sup>19</sup> serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; <sup>20</sup> how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, <sup>21</sup> testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup> And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, <sup>23</sup> except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. <sup>24</sup> But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. <sup>25</sup> And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. <sup>26</sup> Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, <sup>27</sup> for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. <sup>28</sup> Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. <sup>29</sup> I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; <sup>30</sup> and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. <sup>31</sup> Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. <sup>32</sup> And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

#### SERMON RECAP - MAIN POINTS

##### 5 Marks of Godly Leaders

1. Heart
2. Mouth
3. Feet
4. Hands
5. Eyes

#### ICE BREAKER QUESTION

##### GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What has been one "high" and one "low" from your past week?

##### SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- If you were saying farewell to loved ones, what would you want to say?

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

##### **Observation: What does the passage say?**

##### GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What is taking place in this passage?
- What words or themes stand out to you, and why?
- What are the circumstances of the text?
- Who is involved in the passage and what do you notice about the participants?

##### SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- What is Paul trying to model for the Ephesian elders?
- How was Paul able to stay motivated in the face of persecution?
- How does Paul describe his life and mission?

##### **Interpretation: What does the passage mean?**

##### GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What does this passage teach us about God? What does it teach us about Jesus?
- How does this passage relate to the Gospel?
- How does this text relate to other parts of Scripture?
- How would we summarize the truth of this passage in our own words?

##### SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- How did the Holy Spirit aid Paul?
- Why is it important to "pay careful attention" to ourselves and all the flock?
- How does Paul display godly leadership in this passage?

***Application: How can we apply this passage to our lives?***

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- What encouraged you the most from this week's passage? What challenged you the most?
- Does this passage impact your understanding of the Lord? If so, how?
- What is one action you can take this week in obedience to the Lord?

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- How does Paul's life and work challenge you?
- How does the Holy Spirit lead and guide us?
- How is God calling you to respond to this message?