

Thankful for A Life Well Lived

Acts 20:19-35

1. Paul made sure his generation knew the truth

²⁰I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house... ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. (Acts 20:20,26-27 ESV)

“When I say to the wicked, 'You wicked person, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood.” (Ezekiel 33:8 NIV)

2. Paul directed people to Jesus, not himself

¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials... (Acts 20:19 ESV)

3. Paul invested deeply in the church

²⁸Pay 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. (Acts 20:28 ESV)

4. Paul did what Jesus called him to do

²⁴But 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. (Acts 20:24 ESV)

5. Paul finished strong

²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.²⁴ 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. (Acts 20:23-24 ESV)

6. Paul gave more than he took

³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (Acts 20:33,35 ESV)

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1. How are you ensuring that the present generation know the truth? The next generation?
2. How are you directing people to Jesus? What is the best part of serving the Lord? What is the hardest part?
3. How are you investing in the church, God's community?
4. You may not have the same calling that Paul had but you have a calling. What has Jesus called you to do?
5. How are you doing on your race? How can the people in your group pray for you on your race?
6. Acts 20:35 says it is more blessed to give than to receive. What does this look like lived out?