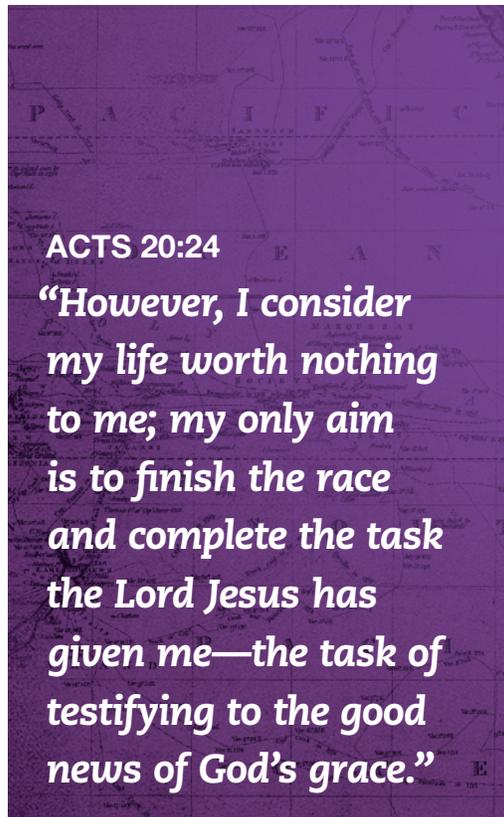


ACTS 20:1–12

“Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again. 26 Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of any of you. 27 For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. 28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. 29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. 30 Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. 31 So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

32 “Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. 33 I have not coveted anyone’s silver or gold or clothing. 34 You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. 35 In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”



SERMON REFLECTIONS

- Faithfulness is an attribute of God. God is faithful. Why do you think faithfulness is such an important aspect of our walk with God?
- The message that we are sent to faithfully proclaim is the gospel, the good news of salvation in Christ alone. What are some of the ways Christians and churches are unfaithful to the gospel message? What effect does that unfaithfulness have on God’s kingdom work?
- As believers we have been given a mission that we are sent by God to fulfill. What is that mission? How does God intend to fulfill it through us? (Acts 20:24)
- All of us who follow Jesus have been summoned to the ministry of the gospel. Some have a call vocationally but all of us are ministers of the gospel. What is that ministry, and how are we as Christ’s body the church supposed to carry out the ministry we’ve been sent to fulfill (see 2 Corinthians 5:16–20)? How did Paul fulfill it? What was he instructing the Ephesian elders to do that is a model for us?
- Paul said he wanted to finish well and complete the task Jesus had given him. How can we live our lives to ensure that we remain faithful and finish our race well? (Acts 20:24, 32–35)