

SERMON OUTLINE

3745 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Sunday Morning 4/13/08

“Finding Perspective”

I. Topic to be Discussed

- A. Certain events in life cause you to look at it a little differently. My trip to the Philippines has helped me to gain a new perspective.
- B. I want to be able to look back on my life and say I did certain things well and not let the other things get in the way.
- C. We will examine Acts 20:17-38 to see Paul's perspective.

II. What I Want to Be Able to Say About My Ministry

- A. I Gave God All I Had: Acts 20:18-21
 1. **Humility** - He had a lot to be “proud” of - Acts 19:11-13 - Yet he attributed it all to God.
 2. **Tears** - Probably the most pressing thing to Paul - 2 Corinth. 11:28-29 - Was his concern for saints.
 3. **Declaring, teaching, testifying** - he never stopped spreading the word to all men.
 4. How often tired, scared, hurting, frustrated, alone...?
- B. My Life Was NOT the Most Important Thing to Me: Acts 20:22-24
 1. **Bound by the Spirit** - Commanded by the Spirit??? or simply moved by His commitment to doing God's will?
 2. **Holy Spirit testifies** - Acts 21:10-14 - Agabus
 3. The most important thing was evident in his life.
- C. I Boldly Spoke the Truth: Acts 20:25-27
 1. In the Philippines I became keenly aware that I may never see many of these people again - I wanted to make sure I had told them all that was needed.
 2. This is always true - Maybe my biggest perspective change.
- D. I Was Honest with Myself and Others: Acts 20:28-30
 1. **Be on guard for yourselves** - Some from their own number will turn away - WATCH YOURSELF - be honest
 2. **Be on guard for the flock** - help others be honest about their relationship with God.
- E. I Built Bridges from Others to God: Acts 20:31-32
 1. **Admonish with tears** - he had one goal - to connect them to God and His grace - he loved them
- F. I Was an Example of Service: Acts 20:33-35
 1. Paul wasn't after his own benefit - but theirs
 2. His life was an example