

**ACTS 20:21:** "I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in **repentance and have faith** in our Lord Jesus."

- He preached the \_\_\_\_\_ (v.25).

**ACTS 20:25-27:** "Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about **preaching the kingdom** will ever see me again"

- He preached as a \_\_\_\_\_ (v.26; Ezekiel 3:16-19; 33:1-11; Acts 18:6).

**ACTS 20:26:** "Therefore, I declare to you today **that I am innocent of the blood of any of you.**"

- He preached the whole \_\_\_\_\_ of God (v.27).

**ACTS 20:27:** "For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you **the whole will of God**"

### 3. His \_\_\_\_\_ (20:22-23).

**ACTS 20:22-23:** "And now, **compelled by the Spirit**, I am going to Jerusalem, **not knowing what will happen to me** there. 23 I only know that in every city **the Holy Spirit warns me** that prison and hardships are facing me."

### 4. His \_\_\_\_\_ (20:24).

- He considered his life worth \_\_\_\_\_ (v.24; Philippians 1:12-26).

**ACTS 20:24:** "However, I consider my life worth nothing to me."

- He aimed at finishing the \_\_\_\_\_ (v.24; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; 2 Timothy 4:7).

**ACTS 20:24:** "**my only aim** is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace."

**1 Corinthians 9:24-27:** "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? **Run in such a way as to get the prize.** 25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into

strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 26 **Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly**; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. 27 No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be \_\_\_\_\_ disqualified for the prize."

**2 Timothy 4:7:** "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

- He aimed at completing the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 20:24; 9:15).

**Acts 9:15:** "But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument **to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel.** 16 I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

### 5. His \_\_\_\_\_ (20:28-32).

**ACTS 20:28-32:** "**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."

### 6. His \_\_\_\_\_ (20:33-35; 18:1-3; 1 Tim. 5:17-18; 1 Cor. 9:1-15)

**ACTS 20:33-35:** "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.'"

**1 Thessalonians 2:9:** "Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you."

## 7. His \_\_\_\_\_ (20:36-38).

**ACTS 20:36-38:** “When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. 37 They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him. 38 What grieved them most was his statement that they would never see his face again. Then they accompanied him to the ship.”

### FINAL THOUGHTS

The Apostle Paul’s ministry serves as a great example for us in how we seek to minister to others today. May God find each of us to be faithful to him as we serve.

### SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### PRAY TOGETHER

What observations, comments and/or questions do you have about Sunday’s message?

1. In Acts 20:19 Paul says he ‘served’ the Lord and in the NT he often referred to himself as a ‘servant’ or ‘slave’ of Jesus Christ. What does God expect of his servants or slaves (1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Luke 17:7-10)?

2. Paul seems to have a relationship with the Holy Spirit in Acts 20:22-23 & 21:10-14. How does this relationship affect his ministry? Would you say that you have a relationship with the Holy Spirit? How is a relationship with the Holy Spirit developed? How would it help your ministry?

3. Paul’s perspective about life is truly amazing (Acts 20:24). How realistic is this for a person with a family (1 Cor. 7:25-35)? Can it be attained?

4. In Acts 18:3 we discover that Paul was a ‘tentmaker’ by trade and used this work to support the ministry (Acts 20:33-35; 1 Thessalonians 2:9) so he would not be a financial burden. Is this something all Pastors should do (1 Timothy 5:17-18; 1 Corinthians 9:1-15)? What would happen at SMC if our Pastor’s worked full time outside SMC?

5. In Acts 20:35 Paul refers to the words of Jesus. Where in the Gospel’s do we find this teaching of Jesus? How do we make sense of this?

6. Paul was a strong leader, but he also had love for those he led (Acts 20:19, 31; 1 Thessalonians 2:7-12). Take some time to review these passages to discover how Paul led others. How might this help you in your ministry?

**SERIES: GOD’S BLUEPRINT FOR THE CHURCH**  
**TODAY’S MESSAGE:** “*The Ministry of a Servant of God*”  
Pastor Cory Anderson / SMC / 10.02.11

### INTRODUCTION:

## 1. His \_\_\_\_\_ (20:17-19).

**ACTS 20:17-19:** “From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. 18 When they arrived, he said to them: “You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. 19 *I served the Lord* with **great humility** and with **tears** and **in the midst of severe testing** by the plots of my Jewish opponents.”

- He served with great \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 2).
- He served with \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 9:2; Acts 20:31).
- He served in \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 19:8-10, 23-41; 1 Cor. 15:32; 2 Cor. 1:8-10; 1 Thess. 2:1-2; Acts 16).

## 2. His \_\_\_\_\_ (20:20-21,25-27).

- He preached what was \_\_\_\_\_ (v.20; Gal. 4:16; 2 Tim. 4:1-5).

**ACTS 20:20:** “You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything **that would be helpful to you** but have taught you publicly and from house to house.”

- He preached \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_ (v.20; Acts 19:9-10; 1 Cor. 16:19).

**ACTS 20:20:** “You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you **publicly and from house to house.**”

- He preached \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ (v.21).