You Can Serve God Humbly To The Ends of the Earth #55

Acts 20:17-38





"17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the
elders of the church. 18 And when they had come to him, he
said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to
Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, 19 serving
the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which
happened to me by the plotting of the Jews;" (v. 17-19)
• Humility = From a Position
"20 how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but
proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from
house to house, 21 testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks,
repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus
<u>Christ</u> ." (v. 20-21)
• Speak The of the
"22 And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem,
not knowing the things that will happen to me there, 23
except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that
chains and tribulations await me. 24 But none of these
things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so
that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I
received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the
grace of God." (v. 22-24)
• God, Even in
"25 And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom
have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face
no more. 26 Therefore I testify to you this day that <u>I am</u>
innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not shunned
to declare to you the whole counsel of God." (v. 25-27)
Responsibility For Your

"28 Therefore <u>take heed</u> to yourselves and to all the
flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers,
to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His
own blood." (v. 28)
• Godøs People
"29 For I know this, that after my departure savage
wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. 30
Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking
perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves
31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I dia
not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears."
(v. 29-31)
• the Flock From
"32 So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the
word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give
you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. 33 I
have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. 34 Yes, you
yourselves know that these hands have provided for my
necessities, and for those who were with me. 35 <u>I have</u>
shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must
<u>support the weak</u> . And remember the words of the Lord
Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to
<u>receive</u> .' " (v. 32-35)
• Focus on, Not on
"36 And when he had said these things, he knelt down
and prayed with them all. 37 Then they all wept freely, and
fell on Paul's neck and kissed him, 38 sorrowing most of all
for the words which he spoke, that they would see his face
no more. And they accompanied him to the ship." (v. 36-38)
• Christian

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• Humility = <u>Serve</u> From a <u>Low</u> Position "20 <u>how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but</u> <u>proclaimed it to you</u>, and taught you publicly and from house to house, 21 <u>testifying</u> to Jews, and also to Greeks, <u>repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus</u> <u>Christ.</u>" (v. 20-21)

• Speak The <u>Truth</u> of the <u>Gospel</u>

"22 And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, 23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. 24 But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God." (v. 22-24)

• Serve God, Even in Adversity

"25 And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more. 26 Therefore I testify to you this day that <u>I am innocent of the blood of all men.</u> 27 <u>For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God</u>." (v. 25-27)

• Accept Responsibility For Your Ministry

"28 Therefore <u>take heed</u> to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, <u>to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with Hisown blood</u>." (v. 28)

• <u>Shepherd</u> Godøs People

"29 For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. 31 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears."

(v. 29-31)

• Protect the Flock From <u>Danger</u>

"32 So now, brethren, <u>I commend you to God and to the</u> word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. 33 I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. 34 Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. 35 <u>I have</u> shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, '<u>It is more blessed to give than to receive</u>.'" (v. 32-35)

• Focus on God, Not on Men

"36 And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. 37 Then they all wept freely, and fell on Paul's neck and kissed him, 38 sorrowing most of all for the words which he spoke, that they would see his face no more. And they accompanied him to the ship." (v. 36-38)

• Express Christian Love

How Are You Humbly Serving God?