

Study Guide for March 26th, 2006. Final Words. Acts 20:17-21

Introduction: Imagine saying good-bye to dear friends from church. You know you won't see them again. What would you emphasize to cement your spiritual impact?

I. Past Service – Integrity: Acts 20: 17-21

- A. Summarize Paul's pastoral ministry among the Ephesians.
- B. Identify one change so that your service at Grace comes closer to the picture here.

II. Future Goal -- Completion: Acts 20:22-24

- A. What is Paul's goal? What will he face? Describe his heart as revealed here.
- B. What priorities need to change so your future goals would reflect Paul's goal?

III. Ministry Pattern -- Full Disclosure: Acts 20:25-27

- A. What has Paul done? What has Paul not done?
- B. Read Ezek. 3:16-27. How does God's warning to Ezekiel inform Paul?
- C. If you were called to account for your service to God, what would you say?

IV. Exhortation -- Vigilant Oversight: Acts 20:28-31

- A. (Vs. 28a) Keep _____ over ____ & ____ . Who made these elders overseers?
- B. (Vs. 28b) Be _____ of the ____ . To whom does the church belong? Why?
- C. (Vs. 30) Savage ____ will come.. Where do they come from? How do they work?
- D. (Vs. 31) Be on your _____ ! What will protect the church from false teachers?

V. Example -- Give Yourself: Acts 20:32-35

- A. Who will safeguard the future of the church? How will it be ensured?
- B. What does Paul highlight in his example here? (see I Pet. 5:2)
- C. Memorize vs. 35. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Why is this true?

VI. Departure – Prayer & Tears: Acts 20:36-38

- A. Describe the emotions reported here. When have you felt like this?
- B. What could lead to such affection in just 3 years?