



Group Discussion Questions

Responsibility for Today January 25 & 28, 2018

Group Discussion: How did you normally respond to your parents in High School when they asked you to do something? Do you have a negative and a positive illustration?

Read: Acts 20:16-38

In vs. 18-19 Paul reviews how the believers in Ephesus and he lived life together. They were genuine, open, honest and transparent with each other. Think of High School again, what do you think were the biggest barriers to building relationships? Who did you know that was excellent at building relationships? What were the qualities they possessed that drew others?

Paul specifically talks about humility, being down to earth, lowering yourself and raising others. How do you help others feel significant when you talk to or deal with them? What's one habit you could build that would help you do that?

Paul says in vs. 22 that he was "bound in spirit" to go to Jerusalem. Do you think the leading of God's Spirit in Paul's life was different than in ours? Paul says he is "bound" to the destination of Jerusalem but doesn't "know" what will happen there. Do you ever go places not knowing why you're going? I think I always know why! When you go to Lowe's, Save Mart, Target do you know why, do you have a purpose? Has God ever changed your purpose while you're there by prompting you to give someone an invite card to GateWay? Or to visit with someone you know that you see there, and you provide a little fellowship or encouragement? Do you think God has a divine purpose for everywhere you go?

In vs. 24 Paul says his purpose everywhere he goes is to, "...testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God." What does it mean to testify in a court of law? Have you ever done that? When someone testifies what kinds of questions are they asked? If you were asked to testify in a court of law about the grace of God in your life what kinds of evidence would you talk about? How has the grace of God changed you or with what strengths has the grace of God built in you?

Finally, in vs. 35, Paul quotes Jesus, "It is more blessed to give than receive." Is that true for all people? Do you apply that in your own life? Do people get better at giving after marriage? After having kids? After losing a parent?

Family time: Read vs. 35 to your children and help them memorize it. Ask them, "Let's think of "one" easy way we can all get better at giving to each other. Like our patience, love, forgiveness, help, service, etc. Pray with them about doing the one thing they chose.