The Life Of Paul - Week 19
Following God's Purpose When the Cost Is High
11-8-26

1. Obedience Requires Trust

- Paul was compelled by the Holy Spirit to go to Jerusalem, even though he did not know what awaited him.
- He understood that hardships, imprisonment, and persecution were ahead, but he remained committed to God's calling.
- Paul didn't need to know every detail of the journey; he simply trusted God enough to take the next step.

Key Scripture: Acts 20:22-24 – Paul's greatest goal was to finish the race and complete the task Jesus had given him: sharing the good news of God's grace.

2. Don't Let Others Turn You Away from God's Calling

- In Tyre, believers urged Paul not to go to Jerusalem because they knew he would face suffering.
- Later, Agabus prophesied that Paul would be bound and handed over to the Gentiles. Even Paul's closest friends begged him not to go.
- Their intentions were good. They loved Paul and wanted to protect him, but they were focused on the temporary pain rather than God's eternal purpose.
- We must carefully consider advice from others without allowing their opinions to override what God has clearly called us to do.

Key Scripture: Acts 21:4, 10-14 – Paul remained committed to going to Jerusalem despite the warnings and pleas of those around him.

3. Keep an Eternal Perspective

- Paul understood that fulfilling God's purpose was worth whatever hardship he might face.
- While others focused on what it would cost him, Paul focused on what God had called him to accomplish.
- Sometimes following Christ requires sacrifice, including relationships, comfort, financial security, or the life we have built.
- We cannot allow the desire to avoid pain to become greater than our desire to fulfill God's purpose.

Key Scripture: Philippians 1:21 – "For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."

4. It's Not Too Late to Get Back on Course

- You may have allowed fear, hardships, or other people's opinions to keep you from following God's direction.
- The good news is that your race isn't over! There is still time to surrender your life and pursue the purpose God has for you.
- God is calling us to lay down our own plans and make His purpose our priority.

Key Scripture: 1 Corinthians 9:25 – We run our race for an eternal crown that will never fade away.

5. The Cost of Following Jesus Is Worth It

- Following Jesus will require sacrifice, but the cost is worth it because Jesus paid the ultimate price for us.
- Jesus knew what awaited Him in Jerusalem, yet He willingly continued His journey to the cross.
- His sacrifice reminds us that obedience to God's purpose is worth whatever we may face.

Key Scripture: Luke 22:42 – Jesus surrendered to the Father's will, saying, "Not my will, but yours be done."

TAKE IT HOME: A LIFE OF PURPOSE

- Am I allowing fear or the opinions of others to keep me from God's calling?
- Am I more focused on avoiding hardships or fulfilling God's purpose?
- Am I willing to surrender my plans, comfort, and desires to follow Jesus?

Remember: Don't allow the pain of the journey to become greater than the purpose God has placed on your life. Keep your eyes on eternity, trust His direction, and finish the race He has given you!

2026

VETERANS DAY Breakfast

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

9-10:30 AM - BREAKFAST

PROVIDED BY CF & CREATIVE COMPASSION

11 AM - VETERANS PROGRAM

BY THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

CUMBERLAND COUNTY COMMUNITY COMPLEX

NO RSVP required. All veterans and their families are welcome!

CHRISTMAS Collections

More information can be found at the GO Table!

COLLECTION DATES

DCS Stockings
October 25th-November 29th

Operation Christmas Child
October 25th-November 15th

Special Needs Stocking
November 15th-December 6th

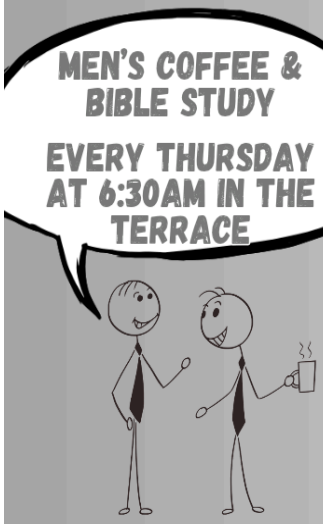
Seniors Friendsgiving

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH 11:30AM

SIGN UP ON THE APP TO BRING A SIDE DISH!

MEN'S COFFEE & BIBLE STUDY

EVERY THURSDAY AT 6:30AM IN THE TERRACE





THANKSGIVING LUNCH

AT CF STOREHOUSE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26 @ 11:00 AM

REGISTER ON THE APP

NEEDED: VOLUNTEERS, TURKEY AND HAM, SIDE DISHES