SUMMER at GRACEWOOD "Markers on the Road" July 16, 2023

Acts 20:22-24 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. 24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; 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. (NIV)

1. SPIRIT'S PROMPTING

Acts 20:22a And now, <u>compelled by the Spirit</u>, I am going to Jerusalem... (NIV)

Job 32:18-19 For I am full of words, and the <u>spirit within me</u> <u>compels me</u>; 19 inside I am like <u>bottled-up wine</u>, like new wineskins ready to burst. (NIV)

2. CERTAIN <u>UNCERTAINTY</u>

Acts 20:22b *I am going to Jerusalem, <u>not knowing</u> what will happen to me there.* (NIV)

1 Corinthians 16:5-9 After I go through Macedonia, I will come to you—for I will be going through Macedonia. 6 <u>Perhaps</u> I will stay with you <u>a while</u>, or <u>even spend the winter</u>, so that you can help me on my journey, <u>wherever</u> I go. 7 For I do not want to see you now and make only a passing visit; <u>I hope</u> to spend some time with you, <u>if the Lord permits</u>. 8 But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, 9 because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who <u>oppose me</u>. (NIV)

3. PREDICTABLE <u>RESISTANCE</u>

Acts 20:23 I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that <u>prison and hardships are facing me</u>. (NIV)

4. UNCOMMON <u>CLARITY</u>

Acts 20:24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus Christ has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. (NIV)

Nehemiah 6:3 So I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a <u>great work</u>, so that <u>I cannot come down</u>. Why should the work cease while I leave it and go down to you?" (NKJV)

• WHEN <u>VISION</u> INCREASES, <u>OPTIONS</u> DECREASE, MAKING IT EASIER TO DISCERN THE WILL OF GOD.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

WHAT ARE YOU EXPERIENCING? UNCERTAINTY? RESISTANCE? CLARITY?

WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT PROMPTING YOU TO DO?