

## 1. Review

- Paul started his return trip to Jerusalem. He stopped along the way to meet the elders of the church in Ephesus.
- Paul told them he would suffer in Jerusalem but he was committed to doing the work the Lord assigned him. He also instructed them to diligently guard, feed, and shepherd the “flock”.

## 2. Text: Acts 21:1-14

### Acts 21:1-12

- On Paul's voyage to Jerusalem, people along the way prophesied that Paul would suffer and be **imprisoned** in Jerusalem.
  - What was the difference from the other times when Paul avoided capture... and this time when he walked directly into trouble? The **leading** of the Holy Spirit.
  - The only thing that mattered to Paul was obeying the leading of the Holy Spirit, no matter what.

### Acts 21:13-14

- Paul responded, “... I am ready not only to be jailed at Jerusalem but even to **die** for the sake of the Lord Jesus.”
- Paul lived a life that was **surrendered** to the Lord Jesus.
- To “surrender” means: To give up possession of; to yield; to resign; as, to surrender a right, privilege, or advantage, especially voluntarily.”
- What keeps us from surrendering our lives to the Lord?
  - The love of earthly stuff, comfort, and doing what we want to do.
  - Fear of the unknown.
  - Love of sin.
  - Not truly aware of who we really are, who God truly is, what Jesus did for us, and how the only logical choice is to live a life of gratitude and surrender to Him.

### 3. Application

- One of Paul's most important values was obeying the Holy Spirit's leading, no matter what. That needs to be one of the most important values in our lives too.
  
- There are so many goals and aspirations in life we can pursue, but pursuing a surrendered life to God is what we were made to do.
  - **Romans 12:1-2** "And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect." NLT