



Sermon Points

Week 21 - 3.26.23 | Terrell Spears

Title: Ministry In Community

Scripture: Ephesians 6:21-24

Main Point: In Christ, we are called to be a community of brothers and sisters connected in the work of ministry, with mutual affection and concern for one another.

Scripture: Ephesians 6:21-24 ESV - So that you also may know how I am and what I am doing, Tychicus the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord will tell you everything. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage your hearts. Peace be to the brothers,^[a] and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

What does God want us as a church to see in these verses this morning?

How might He be calling you to see church and ministry differently?

And when we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him. After three days he called together the local leaders of the Jews...!For this reason, therefore, I have asked to see you and speak with you, since it is because of the hope of Israel that I am wearing this chain...When they had appointed a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in greater numbers. From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets...He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance. - Acts 28:16-17a, 20, 23, 30-31

Paul's time in Ephesus:

- Introduced them to the baptism of Jesus, laid hands on them and the Holy Spirit came upon them

- Faithfully proclaimed the kingdom of God
- God was performing extraordinary miracles of healing and demons cast out through Paul
- Sons of Sceva
- Those practicing magic repented and burned their books
- Riot
- Spent 3 years ministering in Ephesus

Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship. - Acts 20:31-38

Who is Tychicus?

- Beloved brother
- Faithful minister
- Probably from Ephesus
- Served with Paul over a decade
- Part of Paul's traveling companions (first seen in Acts)
- Intrusted with Paul's letters to Ephesus, Colossae, and Philemon accompanying Onesimus
- Sent to Ephesus multiple times to minister

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. And he came and preached peace to you who were far

off and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. - Ephesians 2:13-18

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. - Ephesians 4:1-3

How might He be calling you to see church and ministry differently?