

A WASTED LIFE | ACTS 20:1-38
WAVE CHURCH SD | AUG. 7TH, 2022

Acts 20:17-18 (ESV) ¹⁷Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them: "You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia,

HOW WE LIVE MATTERS

Acts 20:19 (ESV) ¹⁹serving the Lord with all **humility** and **with tears and with trials** that happened to me through the plots of the Jews;

Acts 20:20-21 (ESV) ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE WAY I VIEW GOD DETERMINES HOW I LIVE FOR GOD

Acts 20:22-23 (ESV) ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But **I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself**, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

A LIFE WASTED ON JESUS IS A LIFE WELL SPENT

Philippians 3:8(ESV) ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.

HOW TO WASTE YOUR LIFE

Acts 20:22-23 (ESV) ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, **constrained by the Spirit**, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.

1. **FULLY SURRENDER TO JESUS' LEAD**

Acts 20:22-23 (ESV) ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, **not knowing what will happen to me there**, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.

2. **BE CONTENT NOT KNOWING WHAT TOMORROW WILL BRING**

Hebrews 11:8 (ESV) ⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Acts 20:22-23 (ESV) ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, **not** knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that **imprisonment and afflictions await me**.

3. **WHEN IT HURTS DON'T STOP RUNNING**

Matthew 16:24-28(ESV) Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Acts 20:24 (ESV) ²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

4. PLACE A PROPER VALUE ON OUR LIFE

Ephesians 1:5-6(NIV) ⁵he predestined us for adoption to sonship ⁶through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Acts 20:25-27 (ESV) ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.

2 Timothy 4:6-8 (ESV) For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

5. SPEND YOUR LIFE SACRIFICIALLY LOVING JESUS 'CHURCH

Acts 20:28-38 (ESV) ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. ³²And 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. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In 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.' " ³⁶And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. ³⁷And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, ³⁸being 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.