

We Have Something To Live For!
Text: Acts 20:13-24
October 21, 2023

Big Idea: To live as faithful witnesses, we must embrace the message, mission and cost of Christ.

Context is key!

Question #1 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is going on in the text?

- a) What is the setting and what is happening?
- b) Who are the main characters?
- c) Are there any words/phrases that are repeated?

Question #2 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What does the text say about God and about me?

- a) Is God saying or showing something about Himself? If so, what?
- b) Do the words in the text predict, prophesy or picture something about Jesus? If so, what?
- c) Is God saying or showing something about us? If so, what?
- d) How does the text point to my need for Jesus? How?

Question #3 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What are the principles, commands or promises given?

- a) What is the overall theme of the text?
- b) Does the passage include any promise from God? If so, what?

Question #4 (Context)

Ask Yourself: What is the application?

- a) What is one specific way I can live by these truths, or trust in these promises today?
- b) What is the next step that I need to take to see this happen?

Point 1: We have a MESSAGE: The GOSPEL (v .24)

Question #5

- i) **Rd v. 24:** Why does Paul state the gospel is worth giving his life for?
- ii) What does Paul mean when he says, “..the gospel of the grace of God.”?
- iii) What are some examples of ‘false gospels’ in the world today?
- iv) Which of these false gospels are most tempting for you to substitute for the truth gospel?

Question #6

- i) What is a healthy church a gospel centred church?
- ii) What does a gospel centred church look like as it is lived out in Christ’s power?
- iii) What happens if the gospel is not the centre of each part of the church?
- iv) Take time as a group to testify to the power of the gospel in your life and in Hope Ottawa.

Point 2: We have a MISSION: The GREAT COMMISSION (v. 24)

Question #7

- a) **Rd. Matt. 28:18-20:** What was the mission that Paul (and us) received from the Lord Jesus?
- b) Why is gospel-centrality essential if we are to fulfill the mission to make disciples?
- c) What distracts you from living out this mission? Why those things?
- d) How would your life look different if the Great Commission was the centre of it?
- e) What is one next step you can take this week to prioritize the Great Commission more?

Point 3: We have a COST: Our WHOLE LIFE (v. 24)

Question #8

- a) **Rd Matt. 10:37-39:** What are the two costs in the gospel mission that Paul assumes?
- b) What keeps you from viewing your earthly life as less precious than the Great Commission?
- c) What results from viewing our lives as more important than the Great Commission?
- d) In what area(s) are you subtly believing in a prosperity gospel for your life?

Pull out your fruit to root diagram....

- e) What fruits are evident as you pursue those things?
- f) What are you thinking you will get from having those?
- g) What is it that you really want from those things that you don't believe you have in Christ?
- h) How does the gospel fulfill what you are seeking from those things?

Question #9

"The gospel is not just another message among lots of messages that we preach. The gospel is our only message – our red line, our DNA that should be in every one of us, and in every one of our ministries as a church."-Stefan Cornu

- i) Look up the following passages in order: Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, Romans 5:8, Romans 10:9 & Romans 8:1
- ii) Based on the truth of these passages, write out what the gospel is.
- iii) Now, take your answer and say it in a sentence.
- iv) Who has God put around you to share the gospel with this week? Spend time praying for them.

Prayer Application

Spend time as a group/in accountability in prayer..

- a) REVERENCE before God: Jesus, I praise you because _____.
- b) HUMILITY before God: Confess & repent of what is of great worth than Christ in your life.
- c) THANKSGIVING to God: Jesus, thank You for the gospel that has _____.
- d) SUPPLICATION to God: Jesus, I ask you to help me: i) Live on mission in _____, ii) Proclaim the gospel body to _____, iii) Joyfully count the cost to follow You.

Memory Verse:

"But 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."

-Acts 20:24

