

# Saved by Grace

## Small group questions

*Paul's farewell to the Ephesian elders – Acts 20:17-28*

Leaders – if the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer – please contact

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1. You may enjoy reading Acts 20:17-38 again. Did anything stand out for you from the passage? Or is there anything about which you need clarification?
2. What has been the most emotional farewell you have ever experienced? Share your story.
3. What made Paul's farewell to the Ephesian elders additionally difficult/emotional?

### DISPLAY HUMILITY

4. How had Paul displayed his humility? (See vv18ff and vv34ff).
5. Explore Jesus' pattern of humility in Philippians 2:5ff.
6. Clergy today are generally supported by their congregation or BCA or other donors. Why is this?

### PREACH EVERYTHING THAT IS HELPFUL

7. Read again v20 and v27. Why might some preachers today hesitate to preach the whole will of God?
8. What difference do you feel it can make in church life when a pastor not only teaches publicly but also from house to house? (What administration might you take from your pastor to free him/her up to visit more?)

### URGE REPENTANCE AND TRUST

9. Why might some preachers shy back from urging repentance and trust in the Lord Jesus?
10. What does it actually mean to repent and trust in the Lord Jesus? Why might this be difficult?
11. Why/how is repentance and trust appropriate both for those who are not yet Christian and those who are already Christians?

### BE COMMITTED TO TESTIFYING TO GOD'S GRACE

12. How come nothing else matters to Paul other than testifying to God's grace? (Recall that grace to which he testifies!)
13. How come *so many other things* matter to us – and often matter MORE to us than this?
14. How do you think we might become a church full of people motivated by – excited by – the joy and privilege of testifying to God's grace!

### WARN OF DANGER

15. What are the dangers we face today – from outside the church – and from within?
16. What did Mark say are some of the challenges we face that may appear to be small, but can keep us from – distract us from – sharing Jesus for life? Do you agree with him?
17. What will you take home from this passage, sermon and discussion?

*Pray that we might have good shepherds among us, who demonstrate humility, who do not shy back from preaching the whole will of God, who urge repentance and faith, for who nothing else matters other than testifying to God's grace and who warn us of the dangers we face as we follow Jesus. And pray that we might be good, supportive sheep who in similar humility, follow our shepherd's lead!*