

Sermon-based Discussion Questions

Focusing on the Flock (Acts 20:17-38)

October 17, 2021

1. How are you at saying goodbye? Have you ever had to say goodbye to someone not knowing if you would ever see them again?
2. Read Acts 20:17-19, 22-23, 33-35. Why do you think Paul was able to remain faithful to his calling as a servant of the Lord even though he experienced “tears and... severe testing”? Was Paul crazy to keep going? (cf. 2 Cor. 5:13-15)
3. What challenges do we face in remaining obedient to Jesus our master and faithful to our calling in Christ? What help has God given us? (cf. 2 Pet. 1:3)
4. Read Acts 20:20-21, 24. How would you summarize the message that Paul faithfully preached? What does the gospel demand of us? Why is this good news for those who *will* believe as well as for those who *still* believe?
5. Read Acts 20:28-30. Do you think the danger of “savage wolves” and distortions of the truth tend to show up in churches in obvious ways or are they more subtle? How might these threats “draw away disciples” from the flock?
6. What kind of oversight do you expect of pastors and elders to provide for the flock? How might a formal relationship between a church and a Christian through church membership help to protect the flock from the dangers that Paul envisioned?