



LEARNING TO LEAD

CARING LESS ABOUT YOUR OWN COMFORT
ACTS 20:22-24

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • July 15 & 16, 2023 • Acts, week 100 • Msg. 23-22

Acts 20:22 *And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, **23** except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. **24** 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. (ESV)*

1. **Decide** _____ (v.24)

2. **Expect** _____ (v.22)

3. **Don't** _____ (v.23)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **2 Timothy 1:8-13**. What is evident about Paul's perspective in this passage that led him to be such a persevering servant and role model for others amid such opposition and persecution?
2. Read **John 12:23-26**. How does it impact your thinking to consider that Jesus compared our call to be willing to sacrifice the prioritized pursuit of a comfortable life to his mission of suffering and dying for our sins just before his bodily glorification at the resurrection?
3. Read **1 Peter 5:6-11**. How does this passage encourage you?
4. Read **Luke 9:57-62**. What are some of the challenges that tempt you to put your own interests, safeguards, and comforts ahead of whatever it is that God would have you persevere through at this point in your Christian life?
5. Read **Daniel 4:34-35** and **Isaiah 65:17-18**. What are some of the reasons you know that pursuing Christ and his will for your life is worth it?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 15-08 – **Taking Risks to Reap for Christ**
Msg. 06-28 – **Impeccable Promises & Divine Character**
Msg. 19-39 – **When Our Light Shines in the Darkness**
Msg. 13-38 – **When You're Ridiculed for Christ**
Msg. 07-24 – **Looking Past the Pain to the Prize**
Msg. 14-35 – **When Following Christ is Painful**
Msg. 14-26 – **God's Desire to Save People**

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

July 16th Ps.19-21 & Ac.19:21-41
July 17th Ps.22-24 & Ac.20:1-16
July 18th Ps.25-27 & Ac.20:17-38
July 19th Ps.28-30 & Ac.21:1-14
July 20th Ps.31-33 & Ac.21:5-40
July 21st Ps.34-35 & Ac.22
July 22nd Ps.36-37 & Ac.23:1-11
July 23rd Ps.38-40 & Ac.23:12-35

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Alcorn, Randy. **If God is Good: Faith in the Midst of Suffering and Evil**. Multnomah Books, 2014.
Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. **The Cost of Discipleship**. SCM Press Ltd., 1959.
Dever, Mark. **The Gospel and Personal Evangelism**. Crossway, 2008.
Jeffery, Peter. **How Shall They Hear? Church-based Evangelism**. Evangelical Press, 1997.
Lewis, C. S. **The Problem of Pain**. B & H., 2000.
Mack, Wayne. **Courage: Fighting Fear with Fear**. P & R Publishing, 2014.
Morgan, Christopher. **Suffering and the Goodness of God**. Crossway, 2008.
Nyquist, Paul. **Prepare: Living Your Faith in an Increasingly Hostile Culture**. Moody Publishers, 2015.
Pritchard, Ray. **An Anchor for the Soul: Help for the Present, Hope for the Future**. Moody Press, 2000.
Rose Publishing. **Bible Promises of Hope and Courage** [Pamphlet]. Rose Publishing, Inc., 2006.
Ryle, J. C. **Five English Reformers**. Banner of Truth, 1960.
Tada, Joni Eareckson. **Heaven: Your Real Home**. Zondervan, 1997.
Watson, Thomas. **All Things for Good**. (Puritan Paperbacks) Reprint. Banner of Truth, 1986.