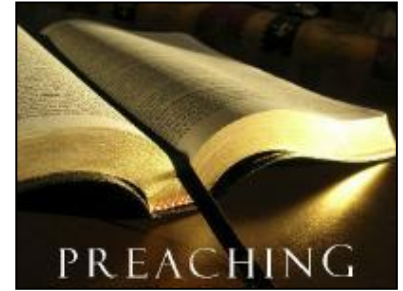


Sermon-Based Discussion Guide for Home Groups

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March 6, 2011

OMC Sunday – Dr. Kevin Ezell

President of the North American Missions Board

SCRIPTURE

Acts 20:17 -

17 From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. **18** When they arrived, he said to them: “You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. **19** I served the Lord with great humility and with tears and in the midst of severe testing by the plots of my Jewish opponents. **20** You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. **21** I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.

22 “And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. **23** I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. **24** However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.

ENGAGE

What comes to your mind when you hear the word “missions”? What do you think missions is from God’s perspective? Have you ever thought of it from His angle?

DISCUSS

1. How often are we guilty of praying for missions in a very general way as opposed to praying for specific people or places or things? Has this year’s OMC helped you get closer to missions than you were?
2. Read the passage above. What truths do you take from the passage?
3. Verse 21 talks about repentance and faith. What is repentance and what does it have to do with our faith?
4. What do you think Paul meant when he said in verse 24, “My life means nothing to me?” Is that a good thing or a bad thing?
5. What was your reaction to Kevin’s newly adopted son telling him, “I’m going to be a good son for you today?” How often do you reflect that attitude toward your heavenly Father?
6. Are you able to accept the fact that you are part of God’s forever family? What does it mean to you that you can’t earn that love?

YOUR NEXT STEP

This week, thank God that He loves you unconditionally. Ask God what you can do to thank Him for his acceptance of you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

1. Have you ever thought about what it would feel like to be adopted? What are your thoughts?
2. Have you ever imagined that when you are adopted, your parents actually get to choose you before they see you? Do you realize that God chose us and loves us unconditionally? How does that make you feel?
3. Since God has extended such love to us, what can we do to serve Him?

OTHER PASSAGES

None available.