

# ACTS 20

VS 17-27



## BACKGROUND | CONTEXT

**17-27 RECORDS PAUL GIVING HIS FINAL WORDS TO THE LEADERS OF EPHESUS. HE ORIGINALLY WASN'T GOING TO STOP IN EPHESUS BUT DECIDES TO. SO, HE SENDS FOR THE EPHESIAN ELDERS TO MEET HIM THERE AND REMINDS THEM OF THE MAIN THINGS HE TAUGHT AND MODELED FOR THEM BY HOW HE LIVED.**

**KNOWING HE WILL NEVER SEE THEM AGAIN HIS WORDS HOLD INCREDIBLE VALUE OVER THEIR LIVES. HIS ADVICE IS FILLED WITH TIMELESS TRUTHS AND SOUND ADVICE THAT WE SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO FOLLOW AND LIVE BY TODAY.**



# MAIN POINTS

**APPLICATION:  
BE HUMBLE. ENDURE  
TRIALS. DON'T SHRINK  
BACK. (VS 19-20)**

**APPLICATION:  
REPENT FROM SIN. TURN  
TO GOD. HAVE FAITH IN  
JESUS. (VS 21)**

**APPLICATION:  
FOLLOW THE SPIRIT'S  
LEAD NO MATTER THE  
COST. (VS 22-23)**



**ACTS 20:17-20 NLT  
BUT WHEN WE LANDED AT  
MILETUS, HE SENT A  
MESSAGE TO THE ELDERS  
OF THE CHURCH AT  
EPHESUS, ASKING THEM TO  
COME AND MEET HIM.**

**[18] WHEN THEY ARRIVED  
HE DECLARED, "YOU KNOW  
THAT FROM THE DAY I SET  
FOOT IN THE PROVINCE OF  
ASIA UNTIL NOW**



**[19] I HAVE DONE THE LORD'S  
WORK HUMBLY AND WITH  
MANY TEARS. I HAVE ENDURED  
THE TRIALS THAT CAME TO ME  
FROM THE PLOTS OF THE  
JEWS.**

**[20] I NEVER SHRANK BACK  
FROM TELLING YOU WHAT YOU  
NEEDED TO HEAR, EITHER  
PUBLICLY OR IN YOUR HOMES.**



**ACTS**

**APPLICATION:  
BE HUMBLE.  
ENDURE TRIALS.  
DON'T SHRINK  
BACK. (VS 19-20)**



**ACTS**

**SHRINK: DRAW BACK OR AWAY,  
ESPECIALLY BECAUSE OF FEAR.**

***SOME OF THE HARDEST  
THINGS TO HEAR ARE  
WHAT WE NEED TO  
HEAR THE MOST.***



**ACTS**

**PEOPLE WHO SHRINK BACK  
USUALLY REVEAL 1 OR ALL OF  
THESE.....**

**1) FEAR OF PEOPLE MORE  
THAN GOD.**

**2) NOT ENOUGH CONFIDENCE  
IN CHRIST OR THE GOSPEL IN  
THEIR OWN LIFE.**

**3) HAVEN'T TRULY BEEN  
CHANGED BY THE GOSPEL.**





***THERE WILL ALWAYS BE  
TENSION IN OUR LIVES TO LIVE  
BY FEAR OR TO LIVE BY FAITH...  
TO FOLLOW THE SPIRIT OR TO  
DRAW BACK OUT OF FEAR.***



**ACTS**

**[21] I HAVE HAD ONE MESSAGE  
FOR JEWS AND GREEKS ALIKE-  
THE NECESSITY OF REPENTING  
FROM SIN AND TURNING TO  
GOD, AND OF HAVING FAITH IN  
OUR LORD JESUS.**



**APPLICATION:  
REPENT FROM SIN.  
TURN TO GOD.  
HAVE FAITH IN JESUS.  
(VS 21)**



***REPENTING FROM OUR SIN  
REQUIRES US TO BE AWARE  
OF OUR SIN***



**ACTS**

***REPENTING FROM OUR SIN  
NOT ONLY REQUIRES US TO  
TURN FROM OUR SIN BUT IT  
REQUIRES US TO TURN TO  
GOD. (TURN FROM SIN AND  
TURN TO GOD)***



**[22] "AND NOW I AM BOUND  
BY THE SPIRIT TO GO TO  
JERUSALEM. I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT AWAITS ME,**

**[23] EXCEPT THAT THE HOLY  
SPIRIT TELLS ME IN CITY  
AFTER CITY THAT JAIL AND  
SUFFERING LIE AHEAD.**



**APPLICATION:  
FOLLOW THE SPIRIT'S LEAD  
NO MATTER THE COST.  
(VS 22-23)**



**ACTS**

***FOLLOWING THE SPIRIT'S  
LEAD MEANS WE ARE  
WILLING TO GO INTO THE  
UNKNOWN FOR THE  
LORD.***



**ACTS**



**WHEN WE OPERATE FROM FEAR  
RATHER THAN BY FAITH WE CREATE  
EXCUSES & MISS OUT ON THE LIVES  
WE'RE CALLED TO LIVE.**

**LIVING FROM FAITH DOESN'T MEAN  
WE MAKE OUR DECISIONS BLINDLY.  
IT DOESN'T MEAN WE DON'T THINK  
ABOUT WHAT COULD BE & ANALYZE  
THE SCENARIOS.**

**WE COUNT THE COST BUT WE DON'T  
ALLOW THE COST TO DICTATE WHAT  
WE DO.**



**ACTS**

**[24] BUT MY LIFE IS  
WORTH NOTHING TO ME**

**UNLESS I USE IT FOR  
FINISHING THE WORK  
ASSIGNED ME BY THE  
LORD JESUS**

**THE WORK OF TELLING  
OTHERS THE GOOD NEWS  
ABOUT THE WONDERFUL  
GRACE OF GOD.**



**ACTS**

# MESSAGE | PERSONAL DISCUSSION

**Q. HAVE YOU EVER HAD SOMEONE TELL YOU SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T WANT TO HEAR BUT IT ENDED UP BEING SOMETHING YOU NEEDED?**

**Q. WHY ARE SOME OF THE HARDEST THINGS TO HEAR TYPICALLY WHAT WE NEED TO HEAR THE MOST?**

**Q. DO YOU STRUGGLE WITH "SHRINKING BACK" OR DRAWING BACK FROM TELLING PEOPLE WHAT THEY NEED TO HEAR? WHAT ARE THE REASONS?**

**Q. HOW WAS PAUL ABLE TO NOT DRAW BACK ON TELLING OTHERS WHAT THEY NEEDED TO HEAR ABOUT JESUS?**

***REPENTING FROM OUR SIN REQUIRES US TO BE AWARE OF OUR SIN.***

**Q. WHAT ARE SOME AREAS IN YOUR LIFE THAT YOU ARE PRONE TO WANDER FROM GOD? WHAT ARE SOME AREAS IN YOUR LIFE THAT TAKE YOU FURTHER FROM GOD? (THINK & BE SPECIFIC)**

***FOLLOWING THE SPIRIT'S LEAD MEANS WE MUST BE WILLING TO GO INTO THE UNKNOWN FOR THE LORD.***

**Q. WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU HAVE DONE THAT YOU WERE FEARFUL OF DOING AT FIRST? HOW DID YOU FEEL AFTER NOT LETTING THE FEAR KEEP YOU FROM THE EXPERIENCE?**

**Q. HOW CAN FEAR BE ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS WE DON'T EXPERIENCE THE LIFE GOD HAS CALLED US TO LIVE?**

**Q. WHY IS FAITH SO IMPORTANT IN FOLLOWING JESUS WITH OUR LIVES?**



# MESSAGE | PERSONAL DISCUSSION

**Q. WHAT IS HOLDING YOU  
BACK FROM LIVING BY FAITH  
RATHER THAN FEAR?**

**Q. HOW DIFFERENT WOULD  
YOUR LIFE LOOK IF YOU LIVED  
BY FAITH RATHER THAN FEAR?**

**Q. ARE YOU WILLING TO  
FOLLOW JESUS NO MATTER  
THE COST?**

**Q. WHAT ARE SOME AREAS OF  
SIN IN YOUR LIFE YOU NEED TO  
TURN FROM?**

