

Living Intentionally for the Sake of the Gospel

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. How old was Paul in Acts 20:24? How many years did he end up living afterwards? What proof was there that those last ten years were as fruitful, if not more fruitful than his first 20 years as a Christian?
2. Paul wanted to go to Jerusalem even though he knew it was going to be filled with hardships. Why did he still go?
3. Pastor Kevin talked about the “if only” attitude in Paul. Can you describe that attitude?
4. How is Paul’s “if only” attitude grounded and enabled by the first half of verse 24 where he says *“I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to my self”*. How does Paul’s attitude towards his own life impact the way he lives?
5. For Paul the value of his life seemed to be determined in how he lived for Jesus and “finishing the course” that he was given by Jesus. Do you agree that any value that we hold which keeps us from “finishing the course” is an idolatrous value? Why or why not?
6. In Mark 10:28-30 Peter thought that he made a sacrifice to follow Jesus. Did Jesus think of giving up Peter’s life to follow him a sacrifice or fulfillment?
7. It is easy to think of giving things up to be as intentional as we can as sacrificing. However, our deepest joy is at stake in living for Jesus, even if means hardships. Have you ever tasted the deeper satisfaction of giving up worldly goods to serve Christ?