

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## LESSON THIRTEEN

### Commitment Makes a Difference

#### **Acts 20:17-24**

*And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. 18 And when they were come to him, he said unto them, Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, 19 Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: 20 And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, 21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. 22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: 23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. 24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.*

#### Introduction

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(Psalm 16:8)

#### **1. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_**

- A. He would not allow \_\_\_\_\_ circumstances to move him.**

**2 Corinthians 11:23–28**

*Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. 24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. 25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. 28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.*

**2 Corinthians 4:16**

*For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.*

**Psalms 62:6**

*He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.*

**B. He would not allow the \_\_\_\_\_ of critics to move him.**

**Acts 21:27**

*And when the seven days were almost ended, the Jews which were of Asia, when they saw him in the temple, stirred up all the people, and laid hands on him,*

**2 Timothy 4:16–17**

*At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge. 17 Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.*

**2. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_**

**A. His \_\_\_\_\_ for abandon**

**Mark 8:35**

*For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.*

**Hebrews 11:24–25**

*By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*

**B. His \_\_\_\_\_ of abandon**

**Galatians 2:20**

*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

**C. His \_\_\_\_\_ for abandon**

**Matthew 20:28**

*Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*

**Luke 9:23**

*And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.*

**3. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_**

**A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Paul's aim**

**2 Timothy 4:7**

*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:*

**B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Paul's aim**

**Philippians 3:13–14**

*Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

**C. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Paul's aim**

**Romans 10:1**

*Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.*

**Luke 19:10**

*For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

## Conclusion

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