

The Heart of a Spiritual Leader

Paul charges the Ephesian Elders Acts 20:25-38 Chris Mueller 9-2-2020

Introduction:

Acts 1:8 you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Acts 20:25-27 "And now, behold, I know that all of you, among whom I went about preaching the kingdom, will no longer see my face. "Therefore, I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. "For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God."

#1 A heart to have your L be the foundation of your ministry

Acts 20:28 "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock."

Proverbs 4:23 Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life.

#2 A heart to L Christ's people

28b Among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

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#3 A heart to L out for spiritual danger

Acts 20:29-31 "I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. "Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears."

Question 1: What are the enemies of Christ and his children after?

Question 2: Where do they come from?

Question 3: What must you do as a spiritual leader?

Question 4: How serious is it to remain alert?

#4 A heart to L the Word and LONG in prayer

Acts 20:32 "And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

Philippians 1:6 For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

#5 A heart to think L about yourself

Philippians 2:3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves.

Acts 20:33-35 I have coveted no one's silver or gold or clothes. "You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my own needs and to the men who were with me. "In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

2 Corinthians 5:15 He died for all, so that they who live, might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

#6 A heart free to be L

Acts 20:36-38 When he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And they began to weep aloud and embraced Paul, and repeatedly kissed him, grieving especially over the word which he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they were accompanying him to the ship.

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. Why is the heart so important for the spiritual leader?
2. How do spiritual leaders actually look out for spiritual danger? Be specific.
3. What area of heart do you need to develop the most in light of today's passage and what steps will you take to grow?



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