

Thinking & talking through the biblical text during the week helps turn what God is saying into action steps. Here are some key questions to get you started.

Reflection Questions:

- On the journey of your life, what stands out about where you've been, where you are now and where you might be next (physically, politically, intellectually, economically, spiritually)?

Read **Acts 20:1-12**

- In this "we" passage, Luke describes the group's journeys after leaving Ephesus. What does Luke say are Paul's purposes in his travels? How do Paul's trials cause him to respond to the ministry God has called him to?
- Why do you think Luke tells the story in **vv7-12**?
- How do you respond to people and situations when their lives are messy? How do you help them see God's perspective and their new nature in Christ?

Read **Acts 20:13-38**

- What is driving Paul forward in his journey (**vv13-16**)?
- What is the mood and purpose of Paul talking to the elders about the past and the future (**vv18-27**)?
- What dangers threaten the church in Ephesus and what will protect them (**vv28-32**)? What dangers threaten the church in Orillia? In places like Guatemala, Ethiopia, Uganda?
- What drove Paul as he continued to minister despite the hardships he faced? Why did he keep going to Jerusalem, even though he had been warned against it?
- What example had Paul set for the Ephesian church (**vv33-35**)? How can we apply this example today?
- What does it mean for you to: keep watch; be a shepherd, be on your guard?
- What do you rely on for encouragement in tough times?

Living it Out

Paul lived out the message of the gospel – the message of God's grace. This isn't a theory but an image bearing way of life.

- In what way?
- How can you live this out? What does it look like in your life?
- Are you giving or receiving in your relationships and ministry areas?