**BE SHEPHERDS OF THE CHURCH OF GOD**

Acts 20:1-38 (Key verse: 20:28)

*Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.*

1. Why did Paul travel through Macedonia and visited Greece (1-4) In Troas, (5-6) what did they do on the first day of the week? (7) Who was Eutychus and what happened to him as Paul talked on and on? (8-9) But how did Paul bring the boy back to life? (10) What did Paul do next? (11) How did people feel the next morning?
2. Why did Paul decide to sail past Ephesus? (16) Yet, from Miletus, why did he sent for the elders of the church in Ephesus? (17, 25, 38) In his farewell speech, what did Paul say to the elders about: (1) how he lived while he was with them in Ephesus? (18-19) (2) About what and how he preached? (20) (3) About the content of his preaching? (21)
3. What was Paul facing in Jerusalem? (22-23) Yet, what was his attitude and only aim? (24) What is the good news of God’s grace? Why was Paul *innocent of the blood* of any of them? (26-27; Eze 33:7-9[[1]](#footnote-1)) Why do you think Paul shared all this (18-27) with the church leaders? (28)
4. Read verse 28. What does it mean to be ***a shepherd*** of the church? Why did the leaders first have to keep watch over themselves? Who does the church (flock of sheep) belong to? (28b) How did Jesus buy the church? What does this teach us about the attitude with which we, as shepherds of the church, should watch over all the flock in the church?
5. As shepherds of the church: (1) what did they especially have to be on guard against? (29-30) (2) what was their attitude supposed to be towards sustaining their lives? (33-34) (3) About giving? (35) What grieved the elders most? (36-38) What does this show about them?
1. Exe 33:7-9: “Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for a their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)