

# ACTS 20:20 PUBLIC + HOUSE TO HOUSE

## WITH MICHELLE MYERS

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All quotes are from class speaker unless otherwise noted.

### The Relational Result We All Want:

*37 And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, 38 being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship.*

Real goodbyes rooted in real love.

This is proof leadership does not have to be lonely and isolating – they knew and loved Paul and would miss him – not just miss what they gained from him.

You cannot expect these kinds of results everywhere God may call you to go. But in order to be able to stay strong in the ministry God calls you to do, you have to prioritize the actions required that produces these relational results SOMEWHERE. There's a big difference between everywhere and somewhere.

We mistake desires and wants for needs.

Real relationships require effort.

### The Activity Required for Relational Results:

*17 Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. 18 And when they came to him, he said to them: "You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia,*

Relational results require proximity – you live among them.

- spiritual – dig in God's Word + prayer + worship
- social – enjoy one another's company
- relational – celebrate highs and support during lows
- personal – ability to be able to get personal about what God's Word says in your real life

Living "away" will limit the relational results.

Living "above" vs. among will limit relational results.

*19 serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews;*

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Serve God:

- Ministry is about serving God – an extension of that is serving others. But if God gets skipped in the process, we could end up serving where He hasn't called us – which is a performance, not a service. Or we could end up pleasing people instead of serving them.

It is possible to get busy serving others and forget you're serving God. If we serve where He hasn't called us, that's a performance, not service.

Ministry is not about serving yourself.

An extension of serving the Lord can be serving others.

When your example and your teaching match, it will always have a deeper affect.

Ministry is most clearly marked through humility, trials and tears.

***20a how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable,***

1 Corinthians 10:23

Paul didn't look for arguments.

Sometimes we can mistake courage for stupidity.

Romans 15

How strong you are in your walk could be defined by how you prioritize unity among believers.

***20b and teaching you in public and from house to house,***

Paul was the same + his mission was the same with or without an audience.

The more "public" your ministry can become, the easier it is to skip the house to house moments.

But without the house to house moments...

You will feel isolated + lonely (and the enemy loves for you to feel isolated and lonely because it's easier for him to get you to fail or quit that way)

You limit your ability to love...and to be loved.

You cannot expect relational results from only public moments.

Acts 1:8: - " But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Don't shy away from the public moments but don't neglect the house to house moments

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The internet won't hold your leg.

***21 testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.***

Ministry included those who were Jews "like me" and Greeks "not like me"

Main message: repentance toward God and faith in Jesus

***22 And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, 23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.***

Followed the Holy Spirit, even though he knew it meant suffering

He was also aware that leading another group of people or going to another city wouldn't be easier.

Trials and suffering will follow no matter what you do or where you go.

We know ministry is messy, but we want it to be pretty.

***24 But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.***

The goal is not about me and what I get but that I finish well in the ministry Jesus gave me in my one great task

Paul didn't look at anything as what He had built, but what Jesus had given

Every person God has put in our path - is a ministry given to us by the grace of God.

***25 And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. 26 Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, 27 for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God.***

It's easy to make yourself more important than you should in the ministry God has called you to do.

If you give them God, you give them what they need.

If you are more concerned with them getting you, they'll never have what they need.

***28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.***

Never get so busy ministering to others that you neglect to realize the importance of Jesus' ministry to you.

Remember the price of your soul and the souls of those around you - it cost Jesus His life. It's worth an

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When we forget or minimize Jesus, we will lose perspective.

“a soul that Jesus died for” puts things in perspective.

***29 I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.***

Evil and ego are equally dangerous and deceptive.

***31 Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.***

Be warned of what could happen if you lose your focus.

Relational results take a lot of time and effort.

***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.***

Paul knew he wasn't their hope, but God was.

Make an effort to minimize yourself and maximize God. (John 3:30)

***33 I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. 34 You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. 35 In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'***

It's a distraction from ministry to want what someone else has.

Work for your needs.

It's dangerous to work with the goal beyond meeting your needs and those in your care. Working for wealth will distract you.

The desire for more money could be one of the things that limits the scope of your ministry more than anything else.

Have stuff, don't let your stuff have you.

**36** And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Teach. Say the things, but recognize your words have no power. God does.

If you want supernatural relational results, they will not happen outside the power of God. Relational results are expedited when you pray together.