

Paul's Directions to the Ephesian Elders – Acts 20:17-32

A. Chapter 19: Paul spends time in Ephesus

B. Chapter 20:

- 1. Paul journeys from Ephesus to Macedonia and Greece, v.1-3**
- 2. Back to Troas from Philippi, v.6**
- 3. From Troas to Assos, v.13**
- 4. From Assos to Mitylene, v.14**
- 5. Bypass Ephesus (via Chios and Samos) to Miletus, v.15-16**

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- I. Take heed as shepherds v.28-31
 - A. You are overseers and shepherds
 - 1. Take heed to yourselves, v.28
 - 2. Take heed to the flock, v.28
 - B. Protect the flock:
 - 1. From savage wolves outside, v.29
 - 2. From false teachers within, v.30
 - C. Watch, therefore, and warn! v.31

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- II. Commend (“to place with someone; entrust; commit”) yourselves to God**
v.32
 - A. Commend yourselves to God, remembering the importance of being faithful**
 - B. Commend yourselves to the Word, remembering the importance of the doctrine**

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III. Paul uses his service as an example v.17-27

- A. He served the Lord, v.19
- B. He kept nothing back, showing love for souls v.20-21, 27, 31
- C. He conducted himself in faithful trust, v.22-24
- D. He worked for the good of others, not himself, v.33-35

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IV. Application: For elders and us:

- A. Take heed to yourselves as Christians – don't just rely on others to protect you**
- B. Commend yourselves to God and His word – don't just rely on others to help you grow**
- C. Use Paul's example of service – don't just rely on others to do your work for you**