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**Unstoppable: The Book of Acts  
Going Somewhere?**

**4 Corners Church  
February 8, 2026**

**Acts 20:13–38** *<sup>13</sup>But going ahead to the ship, we set sail for Assos, intending to take Paul aboard there, for so he had arranged, intending himself to go by land. <sup>14</sup>And when he met us at Assos, we took him on board and went to Mitylene. <sup>15</sup>And sailing from there we came the following day opposite Chios; the next day we touched at Samos; and the day after that we went to Miletus. <sup>16</sup>For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia, for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. <sup>17</sup>Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. <sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; <sup>20</sup>how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, <sup>21</sup>testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup>And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, <sup>23</sup>except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. <sup>24</sup>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. <sup>25</sup>And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. <sup>26</sup>Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, <sup>27</sup>for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. <sup>28</sup>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. <sup>29</sup>I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; <sup>30</sup>and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. <sup>31</sup>Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. <sup>32</sup>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. <sup>33</sup>I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. <sup>34</sup>You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. <sup>35</sup>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.’”*

<sup>36</sup>And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. <sup>37</sup>And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, <sup>38</sup>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.

#### 1. A GODLY LEADER LIVES A LIFE WORTH WATCHING (vv. 18–21)

Paul doesn't say, "Remember my sermons." He says, "Remember my life."  
You can fake gifting for a season, but you cannot fake godliness for a lifetime.  
Your life is the sermon they remember.

#### 2. A FAITHFUL SERVANT OBEYS GOD NO MATTER THE COST (vv. 22–24)

Prison is coming. Affliction is coming. Pain is coming  
Paul: "My life is not about my comfort—it's about my calling."  
Christianity in America says: "Follow Jesus and He'll make your life easier."  
Paul says: "Follow Jesus and He'll make your life count."

#### 3. A TRUE SHEPHERD FEEDS THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD (vv. 25–27)

If a pastor only preaches what's popular, he's not a shepherd—he's a hireling.  
Paul says, "I'm innocent of your blood."  
Why? Because he told the truth—even when it hurt.  
You don't need softer sermons. You need truer ones.

#### 4. THE GREATEST THREAT TO THE CHURCH COMES FROM WITHIN (vv. 28–31)

Before you watch others—watch yourself.  
Savage wolves will come from outside. False teachers will rise from inside.  
The church belongs to God. It was bought with blood.  
Shepherding is not a job—it's a sacred trust.  
Untested leadership is dangerous. Authority without holiness is lethal.

#### 5. GOD'S GRACE—NOT MONEY—SUSTAINS GOD'S SERVANTS (vv. 32–35)

Paul doesn't ask for money. He doesn't build a brand.  
"It is more blessed to give than to receive."  
Leadership in the kingdom is not about what you can take—it's about what you leave.  
A greedy leader disqualifies himself. A generous leader reflects Jesus.

#### 6. GOSPEL GOODBYES ARE FILLED WITH HOPE AND TEARS (vv. 36–38)

This isn't a cold theological meeting—this is family.  
They don't grieve like people with no hope and no future.  
The gospel creates bonds that death itself cannot break.  
Faithful ministry leaves scars—but they're holy scars.

Is your life worth watching?

Are you feeding on the whole truth—or just the parts you like?

Are you guarding your heart?  
Are you giving your life away?