

A Life-Giving Church

Acts 20:1-12

Context: The aftermath of the Ephesus riot (Acts 19:28-41)

If *our* _____ is not colliding with *their* _____, then it's likely we've already been _____ more than we realize!

If my _____ to _____ doesn't sometimes put me at odds with all the 'gods' of the age, then I'm more _____ than I realize.

Diagnostic question for us all: Are you willing to be the " _____ "?

Be _____ even if it means being _____.

Speak _____, even if its _____ or _____.

Judge _____ the _____ that you see.

Fear _____, but never _____.

Be the _____ 'bad guy' you can be.

A culture of encouragement: (Acts 20:1-6)

Nothing is more _____ to a healthy, Gospel-declaring church than the _____.

Sopater (Berea), and Aristarchus and Secundus (Thessalonica) were from Macedonia; Gaius (Derbe) and Timothy (Lystra, Acts 16:1) from Galatia; and Tychicus and Trophimus (both probably from Ephesus, cf. Acts 21:29) from Asia.

Stay the course! God is keeping His _____ promise!

How did Paul encourage them? (Hint: See Ephesians 4!)

How do we encourage each other? (Hint: See Hebrews 10:24-25!)

A culture of resurrection: (Acts 20:7-20)

The real _____ of the church is best experienced in its normal, healthy, everyday _____ practiced _____.

They _____ ...

They gathered _____ ...

They gathered around _____ ...

Then, " _____ " fell out of the window, and two amazing things happened:

1) God worked thru Paul to _____ him! (Putting Paul in the select company of Elijah, Elisha, and Peter)

2) They went right back to _____ and the _____!

We may – at God's own discretion – experience on occasion the visibly, profoundly, shockingly _____, but it is the consistent, faithful work and witness of the _____ that gives new life to the spiritually _____ and renews life for the spiritually _____/_____.

Therefore, I will ...