

A Fond Farewell

Acts 20:17-38

Essence: Saying “goodbye” to folks you love is hard. Here Paul gives a heart-felt farewell address to the Elders of the Ephesian Church as he departs for Jerusalem on a dangerous mission, expecting never to see them again. The “last words” of anyone, whether at the end of a ministry, or at the end of one’s life, are crucial and memorable. What are Paul’s important “last words” to this church? **What would his last words be to us?**

1. **TRANSPARENT** vss. 17-21

- No “Masks” or Hidden Agendas v.18
- Endured Trial v.19
- Consistent in Evangelism vss. 20-21

2. **TESTED** vss. 22-24

- Obedient even at prospect of death vss. 22-23
- The motivating reward v.24
cf. Acts 21:10-14

3. **TEARFUL** vss. 25-31

- Tearful Farewell v.25
- Triumphant Ministry vss. 26-27
- Timely Warning vss. 28-31

4. **TRUSTING** v.32

- Trusting God v. 32a
- Trusting the Word v.32b
- Trustworthy Ministry and Example vss. 33-25

5. **TEARING HIMSELF AWAY** v.21:1a and 20:36-38