

SERIES: CHURCH 101

SERMON #1: An Invitation to Own the Mission of the Church

GETTING STARTED

Did you grow up inside the church or outside the church? How did your childhood experience of the church impact you?

A Gallup poll revealed that 66% of the people polled said they see the Church as not useful or meaningful in helping them discover purpose or meaning in their life. Why do you think these people feel that way?

DIGGING IN

Read Acts 20:17-38.

Based on these verses, how would you describe Paul's sense of purpose or meaning in life? What was the focus of His life?

Reread Acts 20:22-24.

What compelled Paul to go to Jerusalem (v 22)? What did Paul expect to happen there (vs 22-23)? What was the focus of Paul's ministry (v 24)?

Read Acts 21:10-14. Do you think you could have done what Paul did? What is it that compelled Paul to give his life away?

There was another who faced the great difficulty of giving His life away. Read Luke 22:39-44. What caused Jesus to say, "Father, not my will, but yours, be done"? What purpose was great enough for Jesus to give his very life away?

Why might it be considered reasonable for Jesus to give His life away?

LIVING IT OUT

Have you come to the place in your life where you have honestly said to God, "Father, not my will, but yours, be done"? If not, what is holding you back? If so, why have you chosen to give your life to God and trust Him with the outcome?

A missionary, Jim Elliot, once said, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." Jim Elliot was later killed by the people he had gone to serve. In heaven now, do you think he believes it was worth it?

If Jesus gave His all for you, what do you think you ought to give for Him?

These sermon notes are produced each week for further study and discussion in our small groups. If you are interested in joining a small group, please contact Leslie Ann Yell at smallgroups@chathamchurch.org or 545-9589.

