

### **Recap of 6/12/22 message by Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 20:13-19**

1. "This was the close of three missionary journeys, covering about 12 years, A.D.45 to 57. Powerful Christian centers [were] planted in almost every city of Asia Minor and Greece, in the very heart of the then known world." (Halley)
2. This section is important because 20:18-38 is the only sample sermon in Acts by Paul strictly to Christians. Others were to Jewish and Gentile unbelievers in various settings.
3. Humility is essential to ministry. Pride hinders ministry. Pride exhibits itself in one of two ways; "I am nothing," or "I am something." The person who takes the low view isn't free to minister because they are jealous of others, have a need for approval, crave attention, and are threatened by others success. The person who takes the high view is similarly not free to minister because they are contemptuous of others, self-sufficient, also crave attention and are threatened by other's success. Humility is born of faith. It says, "God has made me what I am" and "God has made you what you are." The humble person gives attention to others rather than craving it for themselves and is not threatened by the success of others and thus is free to minister to others.
4. C.S. Lewis on humility (from Mere Christianity): "Do not imagine that if you meet a really humble man, he will be what most people call 'humble' nowadays: he will not be a sort of greasy, smarmy person, who is always telling you that, of course, he is nobody. Probably all you will think about him is that he seemed a cheerful, intelligent chap who took a real interest in what **you** said to **him**. He will not be thinking about humility: he will not be thinking about himself at all."
5. In his excellent article, "Conducting a Spiritual Audit," Fred Smith writes about humility: "Is my humility genuine? To me, nothing is so arrogant as false humility." He gives two definitions of humility. The first is "Humility is accepting your strength with gratitude." The second: "Humility is not denying the power that you have but admitting that the power comes through you, not from you."