

Why Am I Here? Why Are We Here?

Text: Acts 20:17-27

Introduction: *We have probably all asked ourselves at one time or another, the question, "Why Am I Here?" As we embark upon some changes in the way we do ministry at New Hope Christian Church, it is also important that we ask ourselves as a church, "Why Are We here?" That is the question we are going to answer over the next three weeks. In our text, Paul is delivering a monetary gift from Gentile Christians he had collected to help the Jewish Christians living in Jerusalem. While in Miletus, he sends for the Ephesians elders to come and meet with him for what he was sure would be the last time.*

I. We Have a _____ From _____

John 4:34; 12:48&50; 14:31; 5:30; 9:4; 10:10; Luke 19:10; John 6:38; 17:4; 13:15;
Matthew 11:29 (Jesus was focused on doing God's will and setting an example for us to to the same)

II Corinthians 11:23-28; Phillipians 1:20&21

Matthew 28:19&29; Hebrews 13:5; John 16:33

"You cannot arrive at your life's purpose by starting with a focus on yourself. You must begin with God, your Creator. You exist only because God wills that you exist. You were made by God and for God -- and until you understand that, life will never make sense. It is only in God that we discover our origin, our destiny, our identity, our meaning, our purpose, and our significance. Every other path leads to a dead end" (The Purpose Driven Life, by Rick Warren, p. 18).

Is the church of Jesus Christ changing our culture, or is our culture changing Christ's church?

II. We Have a _____ For _____

Jeremiah 29:11-14; II Corinthians 5:17; John 3:5

Acts 2:47

Conclusion: The most miserable people in the world are those who think life revolves around them. Each of us and all of us have a mission from God to deliver God's message to unredeemed man, not for our benefit, but for the benefit of those who will die without God and without hope if we don't.