



“The Authentic Church” - Part 3

Acts 20:17-35 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon

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Introduction – *The book, the Acts of the Apostles, is the history of earliest Christianity. In it we find the birth of the Church of Jesus Christ and what characterized it. Today we will look at the last three characteristics of an authentic Church.*

I. Focus on _____.

- A. A disciple is a “learner.”

- B. Making disciples was a ministry priority for the apostle Paul. (Colossians 1:28)

- C. Paul speaks about what he did as a disciple maker. (Acts 20:18-19)
 - 1. He was “with” them.
 - 2. He “showed” them. (Acts 20:35)

II. Focus on _____.

- A. The “lost” are reached by preaching and teaching the Gospel.

- B. Paul refers to the Gospel as the “grace of God.” There is a reason for that. (Acts 20:28)

- C. Who are “the lost?”

III. Be a Loving _____.

- A. Paul was deeply involved in the church at Ephesus.
 - 1. He shed many tears.
 - 2. He was “with them.”

- B. God’s grace forms the basis for a loving community.

Conclusion.