

## **LESSON 3: ACTS 20:25-21:31**

### **The Third Missionary Journey: Paul's Address to the Ephesian Elders (cont'd)**

1. What does it mean when Paul declares that he is innocent of their blood (vv. 25-27)? Compare this with Ezekiel 3:18-21, 33:2-9, and Acts 18:6.
2. What warning does Paul repeat and why (vv. 28-38)? How contemporary is this warning? What would protect the elders then and today?

### **Paul's Last Recorded Visit to Jerusalem**

1. The Holy Spirit has repeatedly warned Paul of the danger that waits in Jerusalem (20:22-23; 21:4, 10-13). Does the Holy Spirit want Paul to go to Jerusalem or not? Why do believers often interpret the guidance of the Holy Spirit differently? What does this passage (vv. 1-14) reveal about the Holy Spirit? Discuss what is being said concerning Philip's daughters (vv. 8-9) and Agabus (vv. 10-11).
2. With what attitude does Paul respond to these warnings (vv. 20:24; 21:13)? Is Paul right or wrong to go to Jerusalem (vv. 11-14)?
3. Why do the leaders in Jerusalem want Paul to participate in the vow (vv. 20-26)? How would this promote the Gospel?
4. What were Paul's reasons for doing what he was asked? (See also 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 and Romans 14:13-15:3.) What does all of this teach about dealing with differences in the church today?
5. What accusations are brought against Paul (vv. 27-28)? Is there anything familiar about these accusations (vv. 27-39)? Is there anything new? What is the real issue behind all of this?