



Power From on High

Series: Power From On High

Title: Paul's Farewell Speech,
Part 2

Lesson: 106

Text: Acts 20:19-20

Date: June 29 2025

Elders have six primary responsibilities:

1. To live lives worthy of imitation.

A. To serve the Lord

1) In humility

2) In _____

19 serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials which came upon me through the plots of the Jews;

“tears”

Psalm 56:8 You have taken account of my wanderings;
Put my tears in Your bottle. Are they not in Your book?

Types of circumstances that caused Paul to weep:

1. He wept over the _____. (Ro. 9:2,3)

2. He wept over _____ Christians.
(2 Cor. 2:4)

3. He wept over the threat of _____
teachers. (Acts 20:31)

“trials”

“through the plots of the Jews”

2. To _____ God’s Word.

20 how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house,

“shrink” from what is **“profitable”**

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and **profitable** for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

27 “For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God

Why do Pastors compromise the truth?

1. The fear of man

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare,
But he who trusts in the Lord will be exalted.

- Saul (1 Samuel 15:24)
- Peter (Luke 22:54–62)
- Legitimate religious leaders

John 12:42–43 Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing Him, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God.

2. Pride

Revelation 22:19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

3. To keep attendance up.

4. Too lazy to dig deep.

5. To keep unity and peace.

6. A biased view of what is relevant.

7. Miscellaneous reasons

- Holding to a tradition-based interpretation where we have been taught something years ago that was wrong but we have held onto it. But we must teach what we see as a correction.

Matthew 18:19 “Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven.

- They do not have their priorities straight. They have their fingers in everything so they are too busy to saturate themselves in the text.

- The pressure to move quickly through a book.

How do pastors compromise?

1. Avoid difficult and divisive topics.

2. Avoid verse-by-verse expositional preaching

3. Preoccupied with being culturally relevant.

4. Avoid God's demand to rebuke.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

5. Try to be clever rather than be accurate and clear.

1 Corinthians 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel **not in cleverness of speech**, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.

“void”

6. Preach to please the audience.

2 Timothy 4: 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. 5 But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

7. Want to gain the admiration of the audience.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 And my message and my preaching were not in what? - persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

What are the consequences of compromise?

1. Keeps congregations immature.

Ephesians 4:14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

2. Brings greater judgment on the pastor.

James 3:1 Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment.

3. Robs believers of joy.

John 15:11 These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

4. Affects making robust disciples

Matthew 28:19–20 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; ...

5. Limits the fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 66:2 “For My hand made all these things, Thus all these things came into being,” declares the Lord. “But to this one I will look, To him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word.

6. Leaves the church unprotected

Acts 20:28–30 “Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. 29 “I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

7. Hinders the work of the Holy Spirit.

John 17:17 “Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

8. Hinders the power of God’

Jeremiah 23:29 “Is not My word like fire?” declares the Lord, “and like a hammer which shatters a rock?”

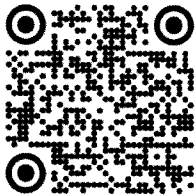
9. Models a careless and flippant approach to Scripture

Implication

We should never, not once, not for a second, not in a moment of pressure, not under the weight of public opinion, not in the face of mockery or marginalization, not under any circumstances whatsoever should we dare to believe that it is best to compromise the teaching of God’s Word.

Discussion Guide

1. We noted that one way to be a slave to Christ is to be willing to endure suffering. On a scale of 1-10 (1 being the least), how would you measure your willingness and capacity to suffer?
2. Are there truths from God's Word that you are tempted to "shrink back" from sharing? What truth(s) and why?
3. Who in your life could benefit from bold, truthful, and loving teaching from you?
4. Have you ever been in a ministry where the truth was compromised? What was it like and how did you deal with it?
5. Pray that God would give you the courage not to shrink back from speaking the truth in love.



***Meet
the staff***



***Online
Giving***



***Weekly
Announcement***

ANSWERS: suffering, unsaved, immature, false, preach