

## Paul: Surprises along the Way

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### Paul's Missionary Strategy

1. Two heads are \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ strategy
3. To the \_\_\_\_\_
4. Then to \_\_\_\_\_
5. Stay \_\_\_\_\_
6. Find \_\_\_\_\_
7. Share \_\_\_\_\_

What is the kerygma?

- Jesus inaugurated the \_\_\_\_\_
  - He went about \_\_\_\_\_
  - He was \_\_\_\_\_
  - God \_\_\_\_\_
  - He will \_\_\_\_\_
  - Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_
8. Establish \_\_\_\_\_
  9. Appoint \_\_\_\_\_ (before he left)
  10. Revisit \_\_\_\_\_ (if he can)
  11. Send \_\_\_\_\_ (if he can't)
  12. Write \_\_\_\_\_

### Paul as a letter writer

Common misperceptions

- Solitary
- A Renaissance man

- Contemplative

*In fact, letter writing was not a solitary affair; it was a \_\_\_\_\_*

- Co-senders
- Amanuenses ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

- Preformed traditions

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Creeds

3. Lists of \_\_\_\_\_

4. Qualifications for \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Paul's co-senders**

- 1 Thess 1:1 Paul, Silvanus and Timothy
- 2 Thess 1:1 Paul, Silvanus and Timothy
- 2 Cor 1:1 Paul and Timothy
- 1 Cor 1:1 Paul and Sosthenes
- Philemon Paul and Timothy

#### **Paul's co-workers ( \_\_\_\_\_ )**

- Eph 6:21 I am sending you Tychicus
- Col 4:7-9 I am sending this letter by Tychicus and Onesimus
- Titus 3:12 I am sending either Artemis or Tychicus

#### **Amanuenses**

- Gal 6.11 See what large letters I write with my own hand
- Rom 16:22 I, Tertius, who write this letter
- Philem 19-25 I'm putting this [ending] in my own hand
- 2 Thess 3:17 The greeting is by me, Paul

#### **The Cost of Paul's Letters**

- Secretaries charged \_\_\_\_\_
- He had to make drafts (usually on wax tablets); cutting the papyrus to size, scoring the lines, making his own stylus (pen), making his own \_\_\_\_\_
- He had to prepare the \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of 1 Corinthians = \_\_\_\_\_

Galatians = \_\_\_\_\_

Philemon = \_\_\_\_\_

### **Finishing the Letters**

- Folding and \_\_\_\_\_
- Folded like an \_\_\_\_\_
- Tied up with a piece of \_\_\_\_\_
- Bit of clay was pressed over \_\_\_\_\_
- Paul's letters were too long to be sent this way, they were rolled up.

### **Dispatching the Letter**

- No mail service available to Paul
- Two possibilities
  1. The \_\_\_\_\_
  2. The \_\_\_\_\_

Writing a letter like we see in the NT was not a quick, lonesome affair. It was a communal enterprise. It took \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Greco-Roman Letter Form**

- Designation of \_\_\_\_\_
- Designation of \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Closing Greeting

### **Points for home . . .**

We would do well to imitate Paul's missionary strategy:

1. work cooperatively with others (you can't do it alone);
2. go to where the people are;

3. start with places you expect might give you a favorable hearing;
4. stay healthy;
5. share the unadulterated gospel of Jesus the Messiah, the Liberating King;
6. start churches;
7. stay in touch (be present any way you can)

### **Points for home . . .**

You can't live the Christian life by yourself. It is a communal affair. The word "church" itself means gathering of people. If you're not gathering, there is a question whether you are true participants in the Church.

1. Get connected (more than membership)
2. Stay connected
3. Find a way to use your gifts for "the common good"
4. Drink deeply from the Christian tradition

### **Points for home . . .**

Drink deeply

Her [Stefana Dan Laing in *Retrieving History*] point seems to be that here we are as Christ-believers in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and our identity is formed more by our culture than by our faith. She thinks, and I agree, that the Church has an identity crisis. We reflect more of the culture today than our own heritage. Culture today has a tendency to focus on who or what is trending. It is whatever is happening at the moment. She asks a great question: would the saints of the past be able to tell the difference between Church and theater?

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- She writes: "While Israel was admonished to "remember" and to stand at the crossroad seeking out the 'ancient paths,' the church today is merely looking *around* rather than looking *back*."

### **Points for home . . .**

- God is at work already in the world, even before we show up. He is at work in the simple and mundane. Cutting of papyrus, the scribing of lines, the choice of words, the remembrance of hymns. God is a actor in history, the One Great Actor without whom history could not exist.
- Practice and celebrate the presence of God in everyday life.