



Going for the Gold

Acts 20:1-38

Series: Acts, #22

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May 4, 2025

The Playing Field.

1. Great conditions. (7-12, 17-38)
2. Terrible conditions.
(3, 19; see also 9:19-29; 13:4-12, 44-51; 14:2, 5, 19-20; 15:1-2; 16:16-24; 17:5-9, 13-15; 19:9-10, 14-17, 23:41)

The Pursuit.

1. Genuine caring and humility. (19, 28-31)
2. Bold and thorough proclamation. (20, 27, 32)
3. Clear vision and pure heart. (19, 22-24, 33-35)

The Prize.

1. Personally: a clear conscience. (26-27)
2. Collectively: close relationships. (36-37)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. Yesterday we thought about “*Going For The Gold*” from Paul’s example as he was wrapping up his third missionary journey. Just as in sports, the *playing field* is not always great. Read chapter 20, reviewing the varying conditions he faced (refer to the outline). You and I will face both great and terrible conditions. Be prepared. Keep going.

Tuesday. The pursuit of serving God and being blessed in fruitful service begins within us. Review the marks of Paul’s pursuit from the outline—being humble and caring genuinely for others, proclaiming the gospel boldly and thoroughly, and having a clear vision and pure heart. How are you doing in these areas? Are there any areas or specific things that stand out in which you really need to improve?

Wednesday. Read chapter 20 again. Whether busy with work and family, enjoying a summer break, or enduring the same old routine, have you been *going for the gold* so far this week? What do your thoughts, priorities and actions tell you? If you have not been going for the gold, why not?

Thursday. The Bible mentions a number of different ways in which God rewards us, of what it means to receive *the gold* from Him. Note the two present tense aspects of the prize we looked at Sunday—a clear conscience and close relationships. These are God’s gracious gifts as we faithfully live for Him. Thank Him. Praise Him for these gifts.

Friday – Saturday. Sunday is Mother’s Day. We plan to look at *A Mother of Faith* from 1 Kings chapter 17.