



**March 19-25, 2017**

**Text: Acts 20:7-12**

**Theme: ACTS-ION:  
The Dynamic Life of Christ's Church –  
Then and Now**

**SUMMARY OF "SERMON":** On his way back to Jerusalem Paul stops by the churches established during his missionary journeys, including this one in Troas. His purpose is clear: encourage the saints through knowing God's word and staying strong in their commitment to Jesus Christ. Paul's encouragement comes not just through his words but through his genuine love and caring for his brothers and sisters in Christ.

**RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK** [The Bible readings this week stem from different points seen in Paul's visit to the church at Troas.]

*Monday, Mar. 20* – **John 20:19-31** [Jesus' first and second recorded meetings with His disciples came on "the first day of the week"; i.e. Sunday, the day of the resurrection. This apparently set in motion the Christian pattern of meeting for worship on the first day of the week, as at Troas.]

*Tuesday, Mar. 21* – **Philippians 1:1-11** [The warmth Paul expresses here towards the Christians at Philippi is undoubtedly typical of the relationships he had with the other churches, including the church at Troas. This mutual love gives depth to our text this week.]

*Wednesday, Mar. 22* – **I Kings 17:7-24** [During a time of drought, Elijah the prophet was helped by a non-Jewish woman who trusted God. Later her faith was shaken when her son died, but Elijah prayed and the son's life was restored.]

*Thursday, Mar. 23* – **II Kings 4:8-37** [Similar to Elijah, Elisha the prophet also had help from a woman who saw that he was a man of God. And, like with Elijah, the woman's son died. So Elisha, in the manner of Elijah – and later Paul at Troas with Eutychus – lay prone on the child, prayed, and the boy's life was restored.]

*Friday, Mar. 24* – **Romans 15:1-13** [Paul is addressing Christians from different backgrounds to find their unity in Christ and to love each other. A key thrust is that God is an encourager (v.5) and a God of hope (v.13), truths that Paul embodies.]

*Saturday, Mar. 25* – **II Timothy 3:10-17** [Paul was not an evangelist who simply preached the gospel and didn't connect with the people. As vv.10-11 show, his life was an open book. He shared intimately with the people he loved, just as he spent time with the Christians at Troas.]



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