

Some Things Lost In The Shuffle
Acts 20:16

WASHING CLOTHES

Build fire in backyard to heat kettle of rain water.

Set tubs so smoke wont blow in eyes if wind is pert.

Shave one hole cake of lie soap in boilin water.

Sort things, make 3 piles - 1 pile white, 1 pile colored, 1 pile work britches and rags.

To make starch, stir flour in cool water to smooth, then thin down with boiling water.

Take white things, rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard, and boil, then rub colored don't boil just wrench and starch.

Take things out of kettle with broom stick handle, then wrench, and starch.

Hang old rags on fence.

Spread tea towels on grass.

Pore wrench water in flower bed.

Scrub porch with hot soapy water.

Turn tubs upside down.

Go put on clean dress, smooth hair with hair combs.

Brew cup of tea, sit and rock a spell and count your blessings.

Introduction:

A. Paul was in a hurry , yet he had time to:

1. Stay 7 days at Troas and meet with disciples on Lord's day. (vs. 6-7)
2. Send to Ephesus for Elders and wait for them. (36 miles sea, 70 by land).

B. Like Paul, we are busy – but, unlike Paul, we don't find time for important things.

1. Rush to be places we “have got to be” - to do things we “have got to do”.
2. Demands of modern life keeps us constantly on the run. (cf. Old Snuffy Smith and Zippy Code)

C. Some things that are often lost in the shuffle:

Discussion:

I. Real Gratitude.

A. Thankfulness and thanksgiving to God and man. (Col. 3:15; 1 Tim. 4:4,5; Rom. 14:6; 16:4)

B. Neglected by so many people. (cf. Luke 17:11-19).

1. May say we are thankful, if asked, but no time to stop and express it.
2. May yell the expected meaningless “thank you” as rush on our way.

II. Common Courtesy.

A. Means (Philo [friend] phronos [mind] or “friendly thoughtfulness” -Vine)

B. Commendable in anyone. (Acts 27:3; 28:7).

C. Expected of Christians. (1 Pet. 3:8).

D. Tossed aside by our fast-paced life style.

1. On highways and streets.
2. In crowds and public gatherings.
3. At home and at work.
4. By merchant and customer.

III. Real Communion.

A. Too rushed to really commune with God in our worship.

1. Some are too rushed to attend public worship -- either regular or “gospel meetings.”
2. Others rush in, rush through, and rush out -- no real communion with God and brethren.

B. Too rushed and/or preoccupied for communion with each other in worship. (cf. 1 Cor. 11:20,21,33)

IV. Christian Companionship.

A. Too rushed for hospitable companionship (1 Pet. 4:9)

1. Too busy to just enjoy another's company. (cf. Luke 10:38-42).
2. Too busy to just “stop an visit a spell.”

B. Too rushed to “keep company” with brethren.

1. A few minutes before or after services is a good time or any time you can get together.
2. Church discipline ineffective because did not keep company. (cf. 1 Cor. 5:11; 2 Thess. 3:14).

V. Bible Knowledge.

A. Depth of knowledge cannot be gotten “on the run”.

1. Can get some math by hurried reading, hearing it -- will not pass course, unless you are a genius.

2. Can get some Bible from hurried reading, tapes, sermons, etc. - must go further.

B. Depth of knowledge takes time, effort and concentration.

1. Time to research. (Acts 17:11)

2. Time to meditate. (Psa. 1:3; 119:148; 1 Tim. 4:15,16)

3. Time to study context, to think conclusions through, look up words.

C. "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing" applies to Bible knowledge.(cf. 2 Pet. 3:16)

Conclusion:

A. We need to find some way to restore what has been lost by our rush.

B. We, in the words of the song, need to "take time to be holy".

C. We need to take time for the really important things of life.