DARE TO SERVE

Acts 20:17-23:11

"I never met a bitter person who was thankful. Or a thankful person who was bitter."

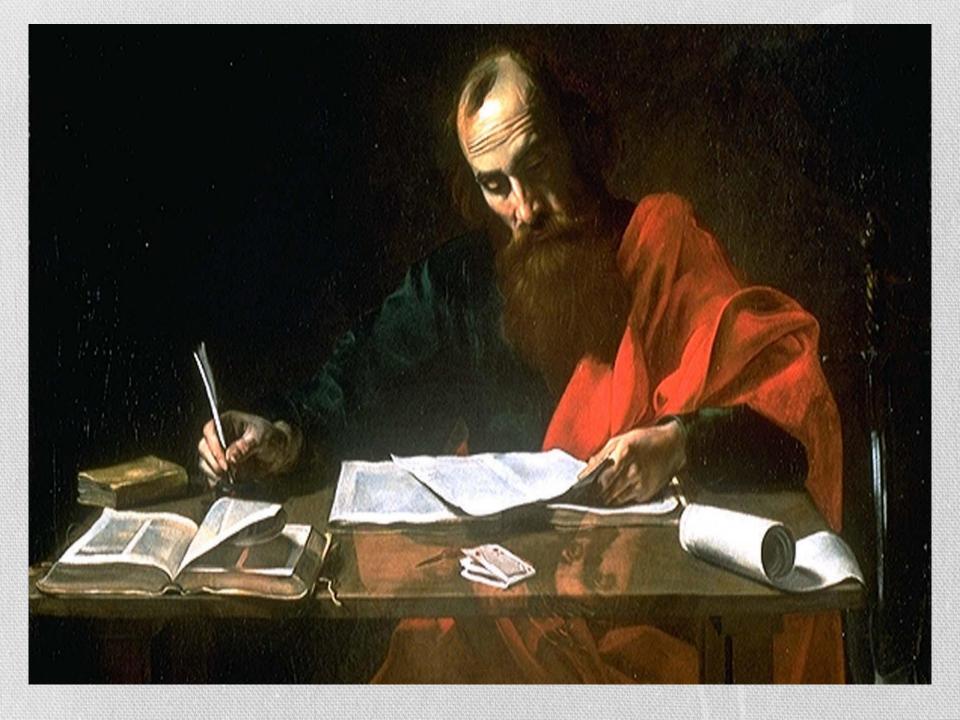
-Nick Vujicic



"The challenges in our lives are there to STRENGTHEN our CONVICTIONS. They are not there to run us over." Nick Vujicie

Inference

- Nick
- Limbless
- •He overcame all odds and find success and happiness
- Me •I have certain disadvantage but not as bad as his
- If he can overcome, all the more I CAN!



HOPE

Hope is an expectation of a better future Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. (2 Cor 3:12)



Faith

- Now faith is **confidence in** what we hope for and **assurance about** what we do not see. (Hebrews 11:1)
- You know that I have not hesitated to **preach** anything that would be helpful to you but have **taught** you publicly and from house to house. I have **declared** to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. (Acts 20:20-21)
- For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. (Acts 20:27)

Motivation of Faithfulness



Love

 When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. They <u>all wept</u> as they <u>embraced him and kissed him</u>. What <u>grieved them</u> <u>most</u> was his statement that <u>they would never see</u> <u>his face again</u>. (Acts 20:36-38)

Love (cont.)

• 10 After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. 11 Coming over to us, he took Paul's belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, "The Holy Spirit says, 'In this way the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles." 12 When we heard this, we and the people there pleaded with Paul not to go up to Jerusalem. 13 Then Paul answered, "Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." 14 When he would not be dissuaded, we gave up and said, "The Lord's will be done." (Acts 21:10-14)

Motivation of Faithfulness



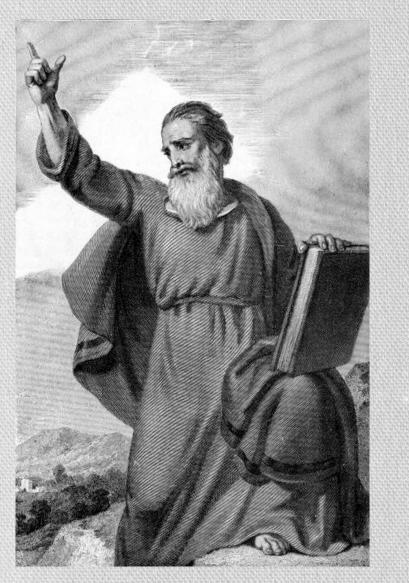
Hope

- 14 "Then he said: 'The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth. 15 You will be his witness to all people of what you have seen and heard. 16 And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name. (Acts 22:14-16)
- 21 "Then the Lord said to me, 'Go; I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'" (Acts 22:21)
- The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, "Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, <u>so you</u> <u>must also testify in Rome</u>." (Acts 23:11)

Paul's Hope

- And now it is because of <u>my hope</u> in what God has promised our ancestors that I am on trial today. (Acts 26:6)
- If the ministry that brought condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness!
- God promises righteousness

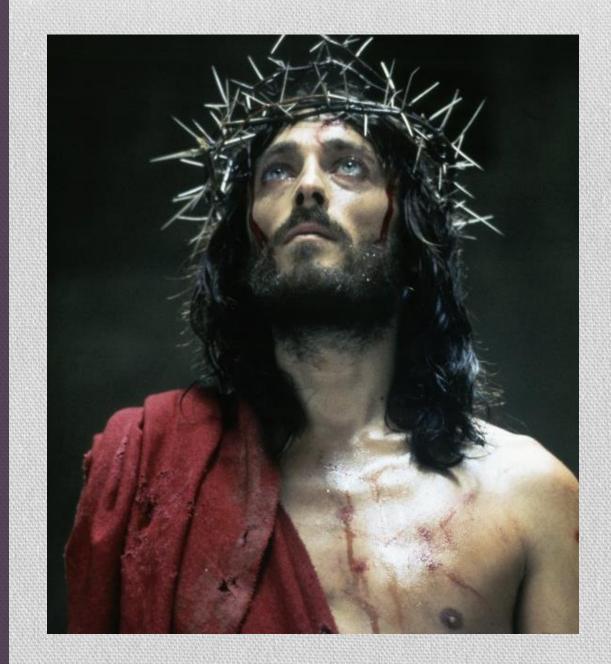
Who can you relate to?





JESUS

The motivation, foundation, sustenance and the power of our faithful service.



How do you teach the children to stand strong and serve?

- Tell the story story by utilizing
 - Map
 - Toy Ship
 - Certain characteristic of a place. Eg. Tyre famous for purple cloth. Dye came from Murex sea snail
- Role-play
 - Agabus

 Describe Paul's motivation and how it relates to the children