Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Acts 20:1-12

Oxygen for the Soul

Background

Read Ac 19:23-41. Write a brief summary of these verses.

Digging In

1. **Read Ac 20:1-6.** Trace Paul's travels on a map of his 3rd missionary journey.

2. What did Paul do as he visited Christians in Macedonia?

3. In your own words, what does it mean to encourage someone?

4. Why did Paul decide to take the longer route through Macedonia rather than just sail directly back to Jerusalem?

5. **Read Ac 20:7-12**. Why do you think the early Christians met on the first day of the week? What was the significance of that day?

6. How did Paul encourage the believers in Troas?

7. What does this tell us about the emphasis we should place on God's word in the life of the church?

8. Paraphrase what happened to Eutychus.

9. How is this incident like that of Elijah (1 Kings 17:21) and Elisha (2 Kings 4:34)?

Getting Personal

Encouragement is a broad concept in Scripture. Two common meanings are *to strengthen and refresh one another emotionally and spiritually,* or *to spur one another toward godliness*.

- What are some ways in which others have encouraged you? Give several examples.

- Instead of building others up, we often tear others down. What are some ways we do that?

- Why do you think we are often poor at encouraging others?

- How would you like to grow as an encourager? How can you encourage someone this coming week?