



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 10: Commit

Suggested Week of Use: November 3, 2024

Core Passage: Acts 20:18-32

News Story Summary

Jimmy Carter recently reached his 100th birthday and was celebrated for his commitment to giving back. A star-studded concert in Atlanta last month raised \$1.2 million for The Carter Center, a foundation founded in 1982. In addition, thousands of volunteers gathered to build thirty homes in St. Paul, Minnesota, through Habitat for Humanity. The former president and his wife Rosalynn (now deceased) helped build homes annually for 35 years.

In addition to Habitat for Humanity, Carter was steadfastly committed to other issues outside of politics, including his marriage (which lasted 77 years), efforts to eradicate Guinea worm, and teaching a Sunday School class for forty years.

For more about this story, search “Celebration for Jimmy Carter’s legacy.”

Engage

To supplement the Engage activities, hang a large piece of paper on a focal wall. After adults arrive, ask: *How would you define commitment?* Write their answers on the paper. Ask: *What are some things people are committed to?* (Possible answers: marriage, careers, volunteering, raising children, sharing the gospel, and so forth) Share the information about Jimmy Carter’s legacy of giving and humanitarian work. Allow volunteers to share the commitments in their lives. Ask: *What character traits are necessary to maintain a long-term commitment?* Explain that this Bible study will center on a story of commitment.

Challenge

To supplement the Challenge activities, recall the story of Jimmy Carter’s commitment to his marriage, philanthropy, and volunteering. Ask: *What might Carter say about commitment as it relates to today’s Bible passage and discussion? How can his example encourage us to apply today’s biblical truth?* Distribute notecards and pens. Instruct class members to complete the following sentences by writing their answers on their notecards:

1. I can deepen my faithfulness to Christ by...
2. To help people deepen their commitment to Christ, I can...
3. One way I can apply today’s lesson is by...

Allow a few volunteers to share their responses. Close in prayer, asking God to empower and strengthen adults as they seek to remain faithful to Him.