

Farewell B4

B4Church

Acts 20:17-24, 28-36

Apr 14, 2024

Alex Lessler

別了, B4四方教會

使徒行傳 20:17-24, 28-36

2024年4月14日

詩歌一：感謝神 I Thank God

Song by Maverick City Music and Upperroom

徘徊在夜色中
想找地方躲起來
這疲憊的靈魂, 這把骨頭
我全心全意地嘗試
就是無法贏得戰鬥
慢慢地隨波逐流啊, 我流浪
就在道路將盡之處
我遇到了那本不認識的人

他告訴我 我並不孤單
他拾起我 他讓我轉過身來
他把我的腳放在堅實的平地上
我感謝我主
我感謝救主
因為祂醫治了我的心
他改變了我的名字
永遠自由, 我不再一樣

我感謝我主
我感謝救主
感謝上帝
我無法否認我所看到的
除了相信別無選擇
我的疑慮在燃燒
就像風中的灰燼

那麼, 再見, 我的老朋友們
重擔與苦夜
你不能繼續進行

不, 這裡不歡迎你
從現在開始直到我走在
黃金的街道
我會高唱你如何拯救我的靈魂

這個任性的兒子
已經找到回家的路

地獄又失去了一個
我自由了, 我自由了, 我自由了

詩歌二: 争战属于祢 | **Battle Belongs**
原唱: **Phil Wickham** 中文翻译: 李翔 **Sean lee**

Verse:

当我看见都是争战 你见我胜利
当我看见都是大山 你见大山挪移
我行过死荫的幽谷 你爱围绕我
我已不再惧怕 因你与我同行

Chorus:

当我争战我向你屈膝 我要高举双手
我神 这争战在于你
将恐惧卸在你脚前 黑夜中歌唱
我神 这争战在于你

Verse 2:

有你来帮助我 有谁能抵挡我
在耶稣你里面 没有难成的事
当我看见都是灰烬 你看见荣美
当我只看见你十架 神你看见空坟墓

Chorus:

Bridge:

坚固避难所 有你在前头
无人能抵挡我神大能的双手
你照亮了黑暗 战胜所有争战
无人能抵挡我神大能的双手(*3)

珀牧師先來分享道,

今天早上我要做一件既困難又美妙的事情, 今天早上我們要為我們親愛的弟兄亞歷克斯祈禱。我想說幾件事, 在我來到這個教會工作之初, 我遇到了亞歷克西斯和他太太, 我知道我可以相信他們。在去年動盪時期我們都在等待做出回應, 並試圖弄清楚神下一步要做什麼,

亞歷克斯是作為朋友神給我的賜予。他是一個品格高尚的人，他是福音的傳道者，耶穌基督的忠實追隨者，他是一個充滿友愛的牧者。瓦倫也是如此。現在他將要去維拉米特基督教會擔任主任牧師。我們請他們一家上台前，我也邀請我們的長老，牧師們上來一起為他一家禱告。

主啊，我們為亞歷克斯禱告。他接到這個新的任務，進入到那個教會的領導層，到這個新的具體和有意的地方，你呼召他們在天國裡有分。我們祈求上帝賜給亞歷克斯智慧、力量、恩膏、耐心和對你的羊群的超凡的愛。他的四個女兒們的成長，得以天國的美麗，我們感謝上帝，他們是力量的化身，我們請求上帝與這個家庭同行，將每一份美好的禮物倍增，對他們生活的祝福倍增，建立新的夢想，並且夢想如此廣闊，以至於他們的心必須繼續擴展來承接包含神所說和所做的一切。我們心裡有不捨，傷感，到我們祈求你的恩典和祝福維拉米特基督教會，我們祈求上帝您能讓他們充滿平安、喜樂和團結。神啊，您將使所有的事情和您的一切都倍增。在分裂的世界中，我們與他們團結，並奉耶穌的名為他們禱告，阿門。

Intro: Gratitude + Goodbyes

簡介：感恩+再見

For days I stared at a cursor flashing on a blank doc.

White space. No words. Just a flashing line reminding me that time was ticking away and I was going to need to figure out something to say.

How do you even begin the process of finding the right words to say in a moment like this?

That's the question I've been circling around for quite some time.

You know me, I usually don't have enough time to say all that I want to...

The clock is always ticking down, and (the clock back there) it usually goes red when I speak because I'm going over and the kids volunteers are wishing they volunteered serving coffee this week instead. ;)

幾天來，我盯著空白文檔上閃爍的遊標。

白色空間。沒有言語。只是一條閃爍的線提醒我時間正在流逝，我需要想出一些話要說。

在這樣的時刻，你要如何開始尋找合適的話語呢？這是我已經思考了很長一段時間的問題。

你了解我，我通常沒有足夠的時間說出我想說的一切...

時鐘總是在滴答作響，而且(後面的時鐘)當我說話時它通常會變紅，因為我要過去，而孩子們志工希望他們本周自願提供咖啡。;)

But this time is different.

但這次不同。

What happens when the clock runs out? When you know the countdown is happening for the last time?

當時間耗盡時會發生什麼？當您知道最後一次倒數發生時？

You think about those words, and every second in a different way then you have before.

Most of you know what this feels like.

你每時每刻都以與以前不同的方式思考這些話。你們大多數人都知道這是什麼感覺。

Maybe it's the cherished last few moments with a loved one who is about to enter eternity.

OR it's that breakup that you know is right, but at the same time you love and care for the person deeply.

Maybe it's the last game of the season, and you're walking off the court together for just one last

time.

OR it's an all night grad party and when you're walking out the door you know that the group you were just with for 4 years will never be together like that again.

Maybe you took a new role at a different company, and the team you have to say goodbye to the team you have worked so hard with.

I know there are many of you here today, that are freshly journeying through goodbyes due to a difficult economic landscape and leadership decisions. A box with some paperwork and your name in it was delivered to you, and you're freshly picking up the pieces of your life wondering what's next.

也許這是與即將進入永恆的所愛之人珍惜的最後時刻。

或者是你知道分手是對的，但同時你深愛、關心這個人。

也許這是本季的最後一場比賽，你們最後一次一起走出球場。

或者這是一個通宵的畢業派對，當你走出門時，你知道和你一起度過了 4 年的團隊再也不會像那樣在一起了。

也許你在一家不同的公司擔任了新的角色，你的團隊也必須和你一起努力工作的團隊說再見。我知道今天在座的很多人因為困難的經濟狀況和領導決策而剛經歷告別之旅。一個盒子，裡面有一些文件，裡面有你的名字，你已經收到了，你正在重新拾起你生活的碎片，想知道接下來會發生什麼。

To any of you that are dealing with a “goodbye” in your life, we see you, we love you, we are for you, and we are contending in prayer with you.

More importantly, Jesus sees you. He is with you in the high and low moments of life.

Sometimes there are goodbyes we choose, and other times there are those that seem to be chosen for us. I used to think that the goodbyes we chose were easier than the ones that we were forced into.

對於你們生命中正在面臨「再見」的人，我們看到你們，我們愛你們，我們支持你們，我們正在與你們一起祈禱。

更重要的是，耶穌看見你。無論你在人生的巔峰還是低谷時刻，他都與你同在。

有時，我們選擇告別，有時，有些告別似乎是為我們選擇的。我曾經以為我們選擇的告別比我們被迫的告別更容易。

I'm no longer sure.

我不再確定了。

Either way, these pivotal and life-altering moments are almost always seared into our memories.

It's because they are milestones in our lives. Core Memories.

不管怎樣，這些關鍵的、改變生命的時刻幾乎總是深深烙印在我們的記憶中。這是因為它們是我們生活中的里程碑。核心記憶。

Remember that scene from the Pixar movie inside out? Core Memories. I'm a Dad to 4 little kids. That's where my head goes. As Riley matures, her core memories become complicated. A mixture of Joy and Sadness, Anger, Fear, Disgust. With maturity comes the complexity of the human experience.

還記得皮克斯電影《頭腦特工隊》裡的場景嗎？核心記憶。我是 4 個小孩的爸爸。這就是我的想法。隨著萊利的成熟，她的核心記憶變得複雜。喜悅與悲傷、憤怒、恐懼、厭惡的混合體。隨著成熟而來的是人類經驗的複雜性。

Whether deemed “good” or “bad” they are the end of one chapter, and the beginning of another. And this is where I find myself today- The end of a decade-long chapter of our lives. The start of a new chapter, new adventure, and the continuation of our journey trusting and following Jesus.

So back to the question I started with... You know... finding the right words in a moment like this.

無論被視為“好”還是“壞”，它們都是一章的結束，也是另一章的開始。

這就是我今天的處境——我們生命中長達十年的篇章的結束。新的篇章、新的冒險的開始，以及我們相信和跟隨耶穌的旅程的繼續。

回到我開始的問題...你知道...在這樣的時刻找到正確的字眼。

Here is the first words that I want to share with you...

這是我想與您分享的第一句話...

THANK YOU!

謝謝你！

You have impacted generations of my family.

你影響了我家族的世代。

For over a decade I've not just been a pastor of B4, but you have also been my church family. But my history with you goes back well beyond the last 10 years.

35 years ago my parents gave their lives to Jesus here. And for the first 5 years of my life, the foundation of my faith was laid here, and built on.

I never imagined that I would get to come back one day, let alone as one of your pastors. But God had something different in mind. He always does. He writes beautiful stories. Ones we couldn't even ask for or imagine.

十多年來，我不僅是B4的牧師，你們也是我教會的家人。但我和你們的歷史可以追溯到過去十年之前。

35年前，我的父母在這裡將生命獻給了耶穌。在我生命的頭五年裡，我的信仰根基是在這裡奠定的，並且在此基礎上不斷發展。

我從未想過有一天我會回來，更不用說成為你們的牧師之一了。但上帝有不同的想法。他總是這樣。他寫出美麗的故事。那些我們甚至無法要求或想像的。

THANK YOU.

謝謝。

I'm a living-breathing testimony to the value of serving in children's ministry. Some of you took care of me in the nursery. Sang me Jesus loves you, calmed me down when I stubbed my toe, probably changed a dirty diaper, and taught me Bible stories. You nurtured my faith. Taught my Parents and my sister and shaped our community as well. Some of you that I've never met changed my life forever. You are a link in the chain of my story, and many others. If you are a part of B4, you're a part of a rich legacy and heritage of faith that goes back generations.

我是兒童事工價值的生動見證。你們中的一些人在托兒所照顧我。唱《耶穌愛你》，在我撞到腳趾時讓我平靜下來，可能換了髒尿布，也教我聖經故事。你培養了我的信仰。教了我的父母和姐姐，也塑造了我們的社區。你們中的一些我從未見過的人永遠改變了我的生活。你是我和其他許多故事鏈中的一環。如果您是 B4 的一部分，那麼您就是世代相傳的豐富遺產和信仰遺產的一部分。

THANK YOU.

謝謝。

When Fallon and I first came here we were expecting our first child. Our journey into parenthood started here. With the birth of each child, a new life was loved, cared for, nurtured, and protected. The foundation of my children's faith, like mine, was laid here. Built on by loving and

skillful hands. You partnered so well in the formation of my kids faith. Let me give you an example...

當法倫和我第一次來到這裡時，我們正在期待我們的第一個孩子。我們的為人父母之旅就從這裡開始。隨著每個孩子的誕生，一個新生命被愛、被照顧、被培養、被保護。我的孩子的信仰基礎，就像我的信仰一樣，都是在這裡奠定的。由充滿愛心和熟練的雙手建造而成。你們在我孩子信仰的形成過程中合作得非常好。讓我舉個例子...

“Scarlet, what should I talk about during my last message to B4”

“You should tell them how amazing I am.”

“Just kidding. Tell them about Simon Peter’s story. How Jesus called him to follow. Peter said, “go away I’m a sinful man” but Jesus said “come follow me, and I will make you a fisher of people.” And Peter, James, John left everything behind to follow Jesus. And that’s what we’re doing right now. Trusting and following Jesus into a new adventure. Leaving behind everything we know and love because Jesus has something new for us.”

You may be losing one Lessler pastor, but give it 10-15 years and maybe you can have another :).

Fallon and I would love to take all the credit for that, but that didn’t just come from us. It came from you too.

“斯嘉麗，我給B4的最後一條信息該說些什麼”

“你應該告訴他們我有多了不起。”

「只是在開玩笑。告訴他們西門彼得的故事。耶穌如何呼召他跟隨。彼得說：“走開，我是個罪人”，但耶穌說：“來跟從我，我要使你成為得人的漁夫。”彼得、雅各、約翰拋下一切跟隨耶穌。這就是我們現在正在做的事情。相信並跟隨耶穌進入新的冒險。拋開我們所知道和喜愛的一切，因為耶穌為我們帶來了新的東西。

你可能會失去一位小牧師，但給它 10-15 年，也許你可以再擁有一位:).

法倫和我很樂意為此承擔所有的功勞，但這不僅僅來自我們。它也來自你。

THANK YOU

謝謝

And while she may currently be the most vocal (my youngest is giving her a run for her money), each and every one of my daughters loves you dearly, and walks closer with Jesus because of you, and knows by name the people who have loved them so well.

雖然她目前可能是最有發言權的(我最小的女兒正在與她爭奪金錢)，但我的每一個女兒都深深地愛著你，並且因為你而與耶穌走得更近，並且知道那些擁有這些權利的人的名字。

THANK YOU

謝謝

Transition: Over the years I’ve had the privilege of serving alongside some really incredible people here. I wish I could stand up here and mention all of you by name and tell you how much you all mean to me...I could stand up here for hours and tell you countless stories of the amazing people that call this their church. But, I’m running out of time (the countdown clock) and I promised to share a little bit of my journey with you.

過渡：多年來，我有幸與這裡一些非常出色的人一起服務。我希望我能站在這裡，提到你們所有人的名字，告訴你們你們對我來說有多重要.....我可以站在這裡幾個小時，告訴你們無數的故事，講述那些稱這為他們的教堂的令人驚嘆的人們。但是，我的時間已經不多了(倒數計時)，我答應與你分享我的一些旅程。

MVMT 1: Paul's Heart for Ephesus 保羅對以弗所的心

So... For one last time as one of your pastors... 所以.....最後一次作為你的牧師之一.....

If you have a Bible, go ahead and open it to Acts 20. 如果你有聖經, 就打開使徒行傳 20 章。

In a few minutes we'll walk through a passage that has been incredibly important to me in the last season. We'll look at the Apostle Paul's farewell to a church that he dearly loved and I think you will put two and two together as to why it mattered so much to me. 幾分鐘後, 我們將瀏覽上一季節對我來說非常重要的一段話。我們將看看使徒保羅對他深愛的教會的告別, 我想你會把兩個兩個放在一起來解釋為什麼這對我如此重要。

But beyond my story, and infinitely more important, it shows the beauty, mystery, challenge, and ultimately adventure as to what it looks like to follow Jesus. So my hope is not just that you would hear about our story, but that you would also be able to see Jesus at work in yours too. 但除了我的故事之外, 更重要的是, 它展示了跟隨耶穌的美麗、神秘、挑戰和最終的冒險。所以我的希望不僅是你會聽到我們的故事, 你也能看到耶穌在你的故事中工作。

Lately I've been drawn to the beginnings and endings of Paul's letters. I think it's because I'm living in these two simultaneous worlds- Hellos and Goodbyes. 最近我被保羅書信的開頭和結尾所吸引。我想這是因為我生活在這兩個同時存在的世界裡——你好和再見。

A few weeks ago, at the same time that Pastor Bo was letting you know we were leaving, Willamette was announcing that we were coming. I had two screens up simultaneously watching both from home. What a surreal experience. 幾週前, 在博牧師告訴你我們要離開的同時, 威拉米特 (Willamette) 教會也宣布我們要來。我有兩個螢幕同時在家裡觀看。多麼超現實的經驗。

Since then, I've really been thinking alot about my last words and my first words. 從那時起, 我真的一直在思考我的最後一句話和我的第一句話。

Where better to get inspiration than the Apostle Paul? 還有哪裡比使徒保羅更能獲得靈感呢?

His beginnings and endings are always kind of similar. 他的開始和結束總是有點相似。



They were written sometimes to the same churches, and sometimes to different ones. 它們有時是寫給同一個教會, 有時是寫給不同的教會。

In Acts 20 we read a detailed narrative of a farewell, which doesn't just include his words but also his expressed emotion indicating his deep love and affection for the church of Ephesus and its leaders. 在使徒行傳第20章中, 我們讀到了關於告別的詳細敘述, 其中不僅包括他的話, 還包括他所表達的情感, 表明他對以弗所教會及其領袖的深愛和感情。

Let me give you a little context to what we are about to read. 讓我為您提供一些我們將要閱讀的內容的背景資訊。

Ephesus - 以弗所-

The church of Ephesus had a pretty special place in Paul's heart. Like many of the other NT churches, Paul and his companions were responsible for planting it. Some really unique things happened there. 以弗所教會在保羅心中佔有非常特殊的地位。像許多其他新約教會一樣, 保羅和他的同伴負責建立它。那裡發生了一些非常獨特的事情。

- Paul stayed there longer than any other church (3 years. Technically it was 2 years and 3 months, but in Jewish thought of the time if you spent any of the time of a year you count the whole thing. So my 10 year anniversary here was March, but since it's April with their logic I can say I was here 11 years   保羅在那裡停留的時間比任何其他教堂都長 (3 年。嚴格來說是 2 年零 3 個月, 但在猶太人看來, 如果你度過一年中的任何時間, 你就算上整個時間。
- The entirety of chapter 19 covers Paul's time in Ephesus. Of course, you cannot cover 3 years of ministry in one chapter, but there were definitely some highlights. ● He did life with

this church. Taught them day after day in the Lecture Hall of Tyrannus. Broke bread with them. Lived with them in such a way that he could say “you know how I lived the whole time I was with you.” 整個第十九章講述了保羅在以弗所的時光。當然，你不可能在一章中涵蓋三年的事奉，但肯定有一些亮點。● 祂與這教會一起生活。日復一日地在泰蘭納斯的演講廳裡教導他們。和他們一起擘餅。與他們一起生活的方式讓他可以說“你知道我和你在在一起的這段時間是如何生活的。”

- Extraordinary miracles happened in and through Paul- Demons were cast out, and the handkerchiefs and aprons he touched were taken to sick and possessed people and they were healed. 在保羅身上並透過保羅發生了非凡的神蹟—鬼被趕了出來，他所摸過的手帕和圍裙被拿給病人和被附身的人，他們都得到了醫治。
- Perhaps one of the greatest miracles... There was such a significant grasp of the Gospel in the hearts of the Ephesians that it began to disrupt the local economy. Sorcery was a big business in Ephesus. But a number of people who had once practiced sorcery threw their books in a fire and burned them publicly (this was the precursor to the youth camp night!) 50,000 drachmas worth. How much that is today is debated a little bit amongst scholars, depending on which currency you're going to compare it to (Greek Drachma or Roman Denarii). There seems to be consensus that 1 Drachma = 1 day's wages. So 50,000 days wages. That is a lot of money however you look at it. 也許是最偉大的奇蹟之一.....以弗所人心中對福音的理解如此深刻，以至於它開始擾亂當地的經濟。在以弗所，巫術是一門大生意。但一些曾經練習過巫術的人將他們的書扔進火裡並公開燒毀（這就是青年營之夜的前身！），價值 50,000 德拉克馬。今天，學者們對這個數字有一些爭議，這取決於您將其與哪種貨幣（希臘德拉克馬或羅馬第納爾）進行比較。人們似乎一致認為 1 德拉克馬 = 1 天的工資。那麼5萬天的工資。不管你怎麼看，這都是一大筆錢。
- When that much economy is displaced, the powers are not going to lay down quietly. ● A riot breaks out. Paul and his companions were labeled trouble makers. They were “disturbing the peace” because so many people were walking away from the worship of the Greek and Roman pantheon, and to the one true God. 當如此多的經濟被取代時，權力不會悄悄放棄。發生騷亂。保羅和他的同伴被貼上了麻煩製造者的標籤。他們“擾亂和平”，因為許多人放棄了對希臘和羅馬萬神殿的崇拜，轉而皈依獨一真神。
- As the riot eventually ran out of steam, Paul and his companions eventually had to sneak out of Ephesus. He had a hasty goodbye, but there was too much heat and he had to get out of the kitchen. 隨著暴動最終平息，保羅和他的同伴最終不得不溜出以弗所。他匆匆告別，但情勢緊急，他不得不從廚房離開。

This all matters because it helps you get into the story. 這一切都很重要，因為它可以幫助您進入故事。

It's also the context of the narrative we are about to read. 這也是我們將要閱讀的敘述的背景。It helps you understand just how weighty the conversation he is about to have with the Ephesian leaders. 它可以幫助你了解他即將與以弗所領袖進行的對話有多麼重要。

MVMT 2: Family + Movement | Acts 20:17-24 家庭+運動 | 使徒行傳20:17-24

17 From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. 18 When they arrived, he said to them: "You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. 19 I served the Lord with great humility and with tears and in the midst of severe testing by the plots of my Jewish opponents. 20 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. 21 I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. -Acts 20:17-21

使徒行傳 20:17-21

17 保羅從米利都打發人往以弗所去，請教會的長老來。

18 他們來了，保羅就說：你們知道，自從我到亞西亞的日子以來，在你們中間始終為人如何，

19 服事主，凡事謙卑，眼中流淚，又因猶太人的謀害，經歷試煉。

20 你們也知道，凡與你們有益的，我沒有一樣避諱不說的，或在眾人面前，或在各人家裡，我都教導你們；

21 又對猶太人和希利尼人證明當向神悔改，信靠我主耶穌基督。

Paul avoided going back to Ephesus. Last time he was in the province of Asia, things got wild. He went to Miletus, and he sent for the Ephesian elders. 保羅避免返回以弗所。上次他在亞洲省時，事情變得很瘋狂。他去了米利都，並派人去請以弗所的長老們。

Elders were the leaders of the church. 長老是教會的領袖。

It would have taken about 4 straight days for the elders to make it there to see him. You don't make a trip like that for just anyone. Their hearts were knit together. This is a beautiful picture of the potential power of Christian community. 長老們大約需要四天時間才能趕到那裡見到他。你不會只為任何人進行這樣的旅行。他們的心緊緊相連。這是基督教團體潛在力量的美麗圖畫。

"You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day..." "你知道我和你在一起的這段時間是怎么生活的，從第一天開始....."

As I processed this season, I just kept thinking about how intertwined our lives have become. Obviously I don't know all of you, and if you are new to B4 within the last 4 months this has almost no connection to you. That's the nature of things. But there are hundreds of you that have been here on this whole journey with us. 24 years young (and 30lbs ago) and a lot better rested. We grew together. When I first arrived, a lot of you didn't like me. Hah. Don't pretend like you did. We had to figure this thing out together. And we did. And you are my family now. 當我處理這個賽季的時候，我一直在思考我們的生活變得如何交織在一起。顯然我並不認識你們所有人，如果你們在過去 4 個月內剛接觸 B4，那麼這幾乎與你們沒有任何關聯。這就是事物的本質。但有數百人與我們一起經歷了整個旅程。24 歲了(30 磅前)休息得更好。我們一起成長。當我剛來的時候，你們很多人都不喜歡我。哈。不要假裝像你一樣。我們必須一起解決這個問題。我們做到了。現在你是我的家人了。 **And**

that's why it hurts to say goodbye. It's supposed to. 這就是為什麼說再見會讓人痛苦。應該是這樣。

We wouldn't have done this thing right if it didn't. 如果不這樣做，我們就不會把這件事做好。

The Church is the Family of God. 教會是神的家庭。

I know that "family" is a loaded term for some of you. And being a part of the family of God doesn't mean it isn't hard, complicated, or confusing at times (just like your family).

That doesn't change the fact that you are "sons and daughters of God" which makes us brothers and sisters in God's family. 我知道「家庭」對你們中的一些人來說是一個沉重的詞。成為上帝家庭的一部分並不意味著它不困難、複雜或有時令人困惑(就像你的家人一樣)。

這並沒有改變你們是「上帝的兒女」這一事實，這使我們成為上帝家裡的兄弟姐妹。

In the NT, you are called “The New Humanity”... Your Life Together is a witness to the world that there is a better way to be human - the way of Jesus. 在新約聖經中，你們被稱為「新人類」..... 你們的共同生活向世界見證了存在一種更好的人類方式——耶穌的方式。

22 “And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there.

23 I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. 24 However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace. Acts 20:22-24

使徒行傳 20:22-24

22 現在我往耶路撒冷去，心甚迫切（原文是心被捆綁），不知道在那裡要遇見甚麼事；

23 但知道聖靈在各城裡向我指證，說有捆鎖與患難等待我。

24 我卻不以性命為念，也不看為寶貴，只要行完我的路程，成就我從主耶穌所領受的職事，證明神恩惠的福音。

The Church is a Movement 教會是一場運動

Think about the travels of Paul. He was on the move. 想想保羅的旅行。他總在行動。

Arriving. 到達

Planting. 植堂

Staying. 停留

Moving. 離開

Revisiting (sometimes). 重訪

There was movement in his story because the Way of Jesus is a movement.

Paul had a belief that the Holy Spirit was calling him to Jerusalem. 他的故事中有運動，因為耶穌的道路是運動。保羅相信聖靈正在呼召他到耶路撒冷。

And he knew that what was ahead of him was going to be more of what was behind him.

He saw his life as a race... more of a long distance one than a sprint... and his goal was to finish the race and complete the task that the Lord Jesus had given him. He had clarity about what that was. 他知道他前面的事情將會更多地發生在他身後。

他將自己的生活視為一場比賽.....與其說是短跑，不如說是一場長跑.....他的目標是完成比賽，完成主耶穌交給他的任務。他很清楚那是什麼。

This brought some comfort and clarity to me in this season. 這給我這個賽季帶來了一些安慰和清晰。

2022 - The Word that Changed Things 2022 - 改變一切的話語

Pastor Bo, Staff Retreat, and contemplating new assignment opportunities... “Not yet. I have called you to stay, and it will cost you more to stay than it will to go.” 薄牧師，同工務虛會，並考慮新的委派機會...「還沒有。我已經叫你留下來了，留下來比離開要付出更多的代價。

I had no idea at the time all that would transpire a year later. But I held onto this word. Written in a journal, I carry it in my backpack every day. 當時我不知道一年後會發生什麼事。但我一直堅持著這個詞。寫在日記裡，我每天都把它放在背包裡。

Felt a little bit like what Paul said, “hardship is ahead” 感覺有點像保羅說的“苦難就在前面”

That doesn’t mean that Jesus isn’t in it. 這並不意味著耶穌不在其中。

The Silent Times 安靜時間

I called it "the silent times" in my journal. 我在日記中稱之為「安靜時間」。
It was June of 23' - Nov 23'. 那是 6 月 23 日至 11 月 23 日。
6 months of quiet after 4 months of chaos. 經歷了 4 個月的混亂之後，迎來了 6 個月的平靜。
The quiet felt maddening. 安靜得令人發狂。

Up until early 2023 - 9 years - I had what felt like a clear assignment at B4.
And then it changed. 直到 2023 年初 - 9 年 - 我感覺 B4 的任務很明確。然後情況發生了變化。

And then it changed again. 然後又變了。

And then things got quiet. 然後事情就安靜了。

I wrestled with Jesus. Now what? Like where do you go from there? One day I wrote...

"If I asked you to stay just so that you could help take care of the church that I love, would that be enough for you?" 我與耶穌摔跤。怎麼辦？例如你從那裡去哪裡？有一天我寫了...

「如果我讓你留下來只是為了幫助照顧我所愛的教會，這對你來說就足夠了嗎？」

Through my wrestling, I was reminded of this idea of Movement. 透過摔跤，我想起了運動的想法。

Sometimes God calls us to Go. 有時神呼召我們去。

Sometimes God calls us to Stay. 有時上帝呼召我們留下來。

For 10 years (11 if we are using Ancient Jewish counting criteria ;) He called me to stay.

And then my time came to an end. 10 年了(如果我們使用古猶太計數標準，就是 11 年 ;))他叫我留下來。然後我的時間就結束了。

And he called me to Go. 他叫我去。

In the **staying** and the **going** God is doing a work In you and Through you. 在停留和離開中，神正在你裡面並透過你工作。

There is a formation of your soul happening In you. 你的靈魂正在形成於你之內

There is a work that he has called you to that is a blessing to others (through you). 祂呼召你去做一項工作，這會(透過你)祝福他人。

As I came out of the "Silent Times" it seemed like my season was coming to an end.

Circumstances and Conversations. That's another story for another day.

But I had no idea what was next. 當我走出「寂靜時光」時，我的賽季似乎即將結束。情況和對話。那是另一天的另一個故事。

但我不知道接下來會發生什麼事。

This is when I was also tasked with preaching a sermon on "Dwelling With Uncertainty"

LOL. 那時我還負責宣講「與不確定性共存」的講道

哈哈。

I got an email from someone I hadn't seen or talked to since... I think it was 2016 or 17?

Chris Yarco and John Rosensteel. 我收到一封電子郵件，來自某人，從此我就沒有見過或交談過.....我想那是 2016 年或 17 年？ 克里斯·亞科和約翰·羅森斯蒂爾。

Transition: And after months the Lord spoke... It was time for movement. 過渡：幾個月後，主說話了.....是時候行動了。

MVMT 3: Take Care of Eachother | Acts 20:28-36

And so Paul makes it clear... The Ephesians are his family, and still he has to go.

But before he leaves, he gives them one last bit of clear direction...

28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. 29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. 30 Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. 31 So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

32 "Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. 33 I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. 34 You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. 35 In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

使徒行傳 20:28-36

28 聖靈立你們作全群的監督，你們就當為自己謹慎，也為全群謹慎，牧養神的教會，就是他用自己血所買來的（或作：救贖的）。

29 我知道，我去之後必有兇暴的豺狼進入你們中間，不愛惜羊群。

30 就是你們中間，也必有人起來說悖謬的話，要引誘門徒跟從他們。

31 所以你們應當儆醒，記念我三年之久晝夜不住的流淚、勸戒你們各人。

32 如今我把你們交託神和他恩惠的道；這道能建立你們，叫你們和一切成聖的人同得基業。

33 我未曾貪圖一個人的金、銀、衣服。

34 我這兩隻手常供給我和同人的需用，這是你們自己知道的。

35 我凡事給你們作榜樣，叫你們知道應當這樣勞苦，扶助軟弱的人，又當記念主耶穌的話，說：施比受更為有福。

36 保羅說完了這話，就跪下同眾人禱告。

There's a lot to unpack here... BUT let me summarize it for you... 這裡有很多東西要解開.....但讓我為你總結一下.....

In other words, Paul says, 換句話說，保羅說，

Take care of each other 互相照顧

Watch out for your health. 留意你的健康。

Guard these people you have been charged with. 保護這些被你指控的人。

Paul had been their shepherd. He uses shepherding language. Part of that is to watch out for the wolves. I know first hand that this team will do that. 保羅曾是他們的牧者。他使用牧羊語言。其中一部分就是提防狼群。我第一手資料就知道這個團隊會做到這一點。

"You need to entrust the congregation to Jesus. It is not the instinct of a shepherd to step away from the church UNLESS Jesus calls you to. And if he does, it is faith." (the words of my therapist and my friend John)「你需要將會眾託付給耶穌。除非耶穌呼召你，否則牧羊人不會本能地離開教會。如果他這樣做了，那就是信仰。（我的治療師和我的朋友約翰的話）

If God calls you to stay. Stay. And don't just watch and critique. Roll up your sleeves. Get to work. Amend the soil. Pour into the next generation. Pour your lives out for our kids, and our students. See the young and the old. Be a church where single people can thrive, and married people can thrive, and they can value one another's contribution as equal gifts from God. Pursue the Spirit. Be transformed and changed into the likeness of Jesus. Defend those who cannot stand for themselves, pursue Justice, extend mercy, walk humbly before our God. Value diversity as a gift of God and a reality of Heaven. Give space for every race and culture. Listen to one another's stories, and honor each other as more than you honor yourself. Remember your words have the power of life or death... choose life. Set aside your political ideologies for the vision of the Kingdom of Heaven. 如果神呼召你留下來。停留。不要只是觀看和批評。捲起你的袖子。開始工作吧。改良土壤。注入下一代。為我們的孩子和學生奉獻你的生命。參見年輕者和年長者。成為一個單身人士可以茁壯成長、已婚人士也可以茁壯成長的教會，他們可以珍惜彼此的貢獻，將其視為來自上帝的平等禮物。追求聖靈。被轉化並改變成耶穌的樣式。捍衛那些無法維護自己權益的人，追求正義，施予憐憫，謙卑地行走在我們的上帝面前。重視多樣性，將其視為上帝的禮物和天堂的現實。為每個種族和文

化提供空間。傾聽彼此的故事，尊重對方勝過尊重自己。請記住，您的話語具有生死攸關的力量……選擇生命。為了天國的願景，拋開你的政治意識形態。

And if God calls you to go. Go. But do so as a response to faith not consumerism or critique. IF God calls you to go, don't leave with bitterness and envy and unforgiveness. It isn't worth it. In fact, I would argue that it should look a little bit like this... 如果神呼召你去。去。但這樣做是為了回應信仰，而不是消費主義或批評。如果神呼召你離開，不要帶著痛苦、嫉妒和不寬恕離開。這是不值得的。事實上，我認為它應該看起來有點像這樣...

36 When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. 37 They all wept as they embraced him and kissed him.

使徒行傳 20:36-37

36 保羅說完了這話，就跪下同眾人禱告。

37 眾人痛哭，抱著保羅的頸項，和他親嘴

Let me pray for you. (please don't kiss me) 請讓我為你禱告。(但不用親吻我)

Conclusion: Break Bread 結束：擘餅

-there was one story in Acts where Paul departs his colleagues, friends, and church family by “breaking bread” together. 使徒行傳中有一個故事，保羅與他的同事、朋友和教會家庭一起「擘餅」。

It's one of the few acts Jesus gave to us that has been carried on since the first century. Sharing a meal together can create a bond. Connection. 這是自第一世紀以來耶穌給我們的為數不多的行為之一。一起吃飯可以建立連結。聯繫。

The meal points to the only source that can heal divides. Bring hope to the hopeless. Love and acceptance to the broken and forgotten. It isn't because these little things we hold in our hands have power, as much as it is what they point to- the Life and Death of Jesus- can. So when we approach the table, we do so with confidence and belonging. 這頓飯指出了能夠彌合分歧的唯一來源。給絕望的人帶來希望。對破碎和被遺忘的人的愛和接納。這不是因為我們手中的這些小東西擁有力量，而是因為它們所指向的——耶穌的生與死——擁有力量。因此，當我們走近餐桌時，我們會充滿信心和歸屬感。

Bread + Cup 麵包+杯 -

在耶穌的道路下，所以弟兄姊妹，當我們把耶穌的身體放在一起時，我們可以記住，他表明他在這裡，他在我們中間，他仍然會在我們中間，阿們？阿門！讓我們一起吃餅。

請小心打開杯。拿著這杯，這就是耶穌之死達成的合約。我在想，在他被出賣的那天晚上，他剝開餅，他把杯子傳給了四周，傳給我們。他把一群除了他之外，沒有任何共同點的人團聚在一起，互相稱為弟兄，直到永遠。讓我們一起喝這杯。

像保羅一樣，我想在告別時為你祈禱，如果你願意張開雙手，我很樂意為你祈禱。

對我的家人們，主啊，不論我們在憂傷或喜樂中，願耶穌與你一起經歷這一切。父神，無論今天每個人都在人生的哪個處境，願他們知道你是看到他們的上帝。謝謝上帝，為我們共同度過了十年生命的這個令人驚嘆的充滿信心的教會。感謝主，一個結束和新的開始。現在主願你祝福他們，保守他們，讓你的臉光照他們，上帝，願你仁慈地對待他們，願他們永遠知道你的平安，奉耶穌的名

，我們祈禱阿們！

The End. (完)