

Following is the outline from a mediation by Pastor Dave Tietjen at Evangel Baptist Church, Wheaton IL www.evbapt.org. It was presented during Evangel's final "Farewell Service," marking nearly six decades of ministry since its founding in 1959. We are "passing the baton" to Vineyard Church of DuPage, thankful that God has honored our prayer that a vibrant gospel witness will continue from this place. Proceeds from the sale will fund support for missions through the Evangel Baptist Foundation.

Also available are the pdf file of the [PowerPoint® version](#) of the notes, as well as an [audio podcast](#)

“We Are from Evangel”

Acts 20:24-25, 32, 36-38

July 23, 2017

The Expression We Determine:

- ◆ **“I’m From . . .” Might Mean Representation**
“I’m from the Insurance Company . . .”; “I’m from Human Resources . . .”; “I’m from the DNR . . .”
- ◆ **“I’m From . . .” Might Mean Relocation**
“I’m from Michigan . . .”; “I’m from Sweden . . .”; “I’m from Illinois . . .”

The Emotion We Display

- ◆ **Not Famous Last Words**
“No, you certainly can’t.” (John F. Kennedy)
“Thomas Jefferson lives.” (John Adams)
“Surprise me.” (Bob Hope)
- ◆ **But Fond Farewells**
“How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard.” (A. A. Milne – Winnie-the-Pooh)
“Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.” (Dr. Seuss)
“Great is the art of beginning, but greater is the art of ending.” (Henry Wadsworth Longfellow)
“So long as the memory of certain beloved friends lives in my heart, I shall say that life is good.” (Helen Keller)
“Goodbyes are not forever; goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I’ll miss you, until we meet again.” (Unknown)

The Emphasis We Desire (Acts 20:17ff)

- ◆ **Exemplified by Paul**
 - ◆ **He Shared His Affection (vs. 19-20, 25, 36-38)**
 - ◆ **He Stated His Affirmation (vs. 24, 29, 32)**
- ◆ **Encouraged by Pastor Dave**
 - ◆ **Affirm God’s Leading**
 - ◆ **Acknowledge Your Loss**
 - ◆ **The Familiar Structure**
 - ◆ **Your Fellow Saints**

- ◆ **Adapt to the Change**
 - ◆ **Carry Your Memories: Converse Regularly**
 - ◆ **Continue Your Ministry: Connect Rapidly**
 - ◆ **Public Worship**
 - ◆ **Personal Growth**
 - ◆ **Private Gathering**
 - ◆ **Practical Service**
- ◆ **Enduring Permanence**

“We cannot go back to our old church. We can go on to a new community. As former baseball announcer (and faithful Christian) Ernie Harwell said, ‘It’s time to say goodbye, but I think goodbyes are sad; I’d much rather say hello. Hello to a new adventure.’ May others say of us and our values: You must be from Evangel.”

(Pastor Dave)