



I recently was able to help with the Pan Ohio "Hope Ride." 400 pedaling 400 miles across Ohio to help those struggling with cancer. A great cause, and the community of riders, volunteers, staff and others who cheered along the way truly formed a solid community united in purpose. What if God's church had the same response to God's cause—the extension of His kingdom?

KEY VERSE: "Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ." (Acts 28:31)

As we come to these final chapters in Acts, we follow Paul's final trips, and the words of advice he leaves behind to the churches. Paul knows his days are numbered, and the days ahead will not be easy ones, and yet he keeps his eyes focused on Jesus being with him on his journey. Even while awaiting his trial, for two years Paul continued to bring God's message to any who would listen.

What enabled Paul, and can encourage me as a part of God's community to take up God's cause?

I am a part of....

A Community of _____

"There we found some brothers and sisters who invited us to spend a week with them. And so we came to Rome. The brothers and sisters there had heard that we were coming, and they traveled as far as the Forum of Appius and the Three Taverns to meet us. At the sight of these people Paul thanked God and was encouraged." (Acts 28:14-15).

God's community _____ for people

How have I seen God's care at work in this community?

A Community of _____

"He witnessed to them from morning till evening, explaining about the kingdom of God, and from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets he tried to persuade them about Jesus" (Acts 28:23).

God's community _____ onto truth

If I was asked, what is the central truth of our community here at Raymond Baptist Church?

A Community with a _____

"Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 28:31).

God's community _____ around God's purpose

What is the main cause that unites me in God's community?

Question for the Week:

- Am I an intentional disciple of Jesus? What does that look like?
- What is my life's cause?
- Is God's cause, my cause?