"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me will find it." – Matthew 16:24-25

"I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles." – Romans 1:13

"In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps." – Proverbs 16:9

"But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me." – I Corinthians 16:8-9

*"We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life." – II Corinthians 1:8* 

"But their idols are silver and gold, made by the hands of men. They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but they do not see..." – Psalm 115:4-5

"Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." – Colossians 4:5-6