Now, To The Hard Places Krista Ellenberger 2 Corinthians 10:14-18 October 8, 2023

Sermon Sketch: Krista shares what God is doing in Alliance Missions around the world and in her life. God is calling "us" to go to the hard places. Will we go...

- How has caring for lost people around you shaped your life this past week? (Core Value #1 Lost People Matter to God, 10/1/23)
- 2) Have you ever been on a missions trip? If not, have you ever considered going? If so, what did you learn on your trip?
- 3) Paul says that he has not overextended himself (gone beyond measure) to reach the Corinthians. Have you ever felt like you had overextended yourself in ministry?
- 4) Elsewhere, Paul says 1) that he is being poured out like a drink offering (Philippians 2:17, 2 Timothy 4:6) and that he 2) has "left it all out on the playing field" (2 Timothy 4:7). Is there a balance which can be struck in ministry where we "give our all" and yet do not "overextend" ourselves?
- 5) How might the image of the burning bush (Exodus 3) encourage us that we might live on fire for God, and yet not be consumed? Can we live on the radical edge for Jesus and yet not be depleted through the regular in-filling of the Holy Spirit?

- 6) Paul (16) desired to preach the Gospel in the lands beyond the Corinthians. Firstly, what are you doing presently to reach Hoosick Falls and its environs? Secondly, where does your heart feel drawn to reach next? Where beyond our local setting are you willing to go to?
- 7) Where are the "hard places" in your life right now with regard to outreach? Is there a particular relationship in which you are challenged?
- 8) If we are not able to presently go to the hard places, how might our prayers and sacrificial giving enable others to go for us?
- 9) Exodus 17 tells us that Aaron and Hur helped to hold up Moses' arms so that battle might go well for Israel. How might we help those who have gone to the hard places and are on the front lines of battle succeed in the Gospel ministry?
- 10) How can we pray for each other to succeed in the battle in which we are locally engaged?

