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Acts 20:7 - 12

One of the great, enduring traditions of church life is how effective sermons can be to put people to sleep. I see it from the pulpit on rare occasions, and I sympathize - though someone just finished a night shift, rather than staying home, he attended church anyway and did his best. Or a lady whose family member is in the hospital stayed up all night, watching over a loved one in need, and still found a way to bring herself to worship. Others have stories I don't know, but I'll invent a noble one in my mind in an attempt to pass on God's grace. Even an orator so much more gifted than yours truly had the same problem. Paul knew his visit to Philippi would end the next day, so he "prolonged his message," at a worship gathering. Night falls, the lamp lights are burning, everything is still, Paul's voice is all that is heard. A young man named Eutychus, who was sitting on a window sill, fell into a deep sleep and then fell out the window. He fell three stories to his death, yet Paul rushed down and brought Eutychus back to life. My point? You never know what can happen if you fall asleep during a sermon - or more seriously, what you may miss.

Read Acts 20:7 - 12 for the full account.