



Small Group Study Questions

Sermon on July 2, 2023

Acts 18:9-18a (NASB)

9 And the Lord said to Paul by a vision at night, "Do not be afraid any longer, but go on speaking and do not be silent; 10 for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many people in this city." 11 And he settled there for a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

12 But while Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews rose up together against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat, 13 saying, "This man is inciting the people to worship God contrary to the law." 14 But when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "If it were a matter of some crime or vicious, unscrupulous act, O Jews, it would be reasonable for me to put up with you; 15 but if there are questions about teaching and persons and your own law, see to it yourselves; I am unwilling to be a judge of these matters." 16 And he drove them away from the judgment seat. 17 But they all took hold of Sosthenes, the leader of the synagogue, and began beating him in front of the judgment seat. And yet Gallio was not concerned about any of these things.

18 Now Paul, when he had remained many days longer, took leave of the brothers and sisters and sailed away to Syria, and Priscilla and Aquila were with him.

DIGGING DEEPER

When was the last time you needed encouragement from God? Tell us why.

Read Acts 18:8-11

Despite Paul being kicked out of the synagogue, there are people who are believing in Jesus. How can this give us encouragement as Christians today?

What does this vision reveal about the challenges and encouragement faced by early Christian missionaries?

What might have been the reasons for Paul's long stay in Corinth and what lessons can we draw from his example?

Read Acts 18:12-13

What are the Jews trying to get the Roman official to do with Paul?

Read Acts 18:14-16

Summarize Gallio's judgment in these verses.

DIGGING DEEPER

What does this episode teach us about the relationship between the early Christian movement and the Roman legal system?

How might this inform our understanding of the interactions between faith and secular authorities today?

Read Acts 18:17-18

What might have been the underlying causes of this hostility toward Sosthenes?

What are you needing encouragement for today? Share and have the other members of your group share different scriptures that come to mind that can help.

TAKING IT HOME

PRAYER REQUEST

