

Acts: O Church, Arise!
August 16th, 2026 — Acts 18:1-23
Strengthened by God in the Middle of the Mission
Sermon by Rex Metcalf

Big Idea: God knows how to strengthen weary servants.

1. God _____ people to _____ us
(vv. 1-4)
2. God _____ strength when we feel _____
(vv. 5-11)
3. God _____ His work in _____ ways
(vv. 12-17)
4. God _____ ordinary _____ to expand
the Gospel (vv. 18-23)

Conclusion

Reflections
Acts 18:1-23

Interpretation Questions

1. Why do you think God chose to encourage Paul with the words, “Be not afraid”?
2. What does this passage teach us about spiritual discouragement—even among mature believers?
3. How does God use friendships and partnerships to strengthen His people?
4. Why is it important that Paul worked as a tentmaker while serving in ministry?
5. How does this passage demonstrate God’s sovereignty over opposition and government authorities?
6. What can we learn from Aquila and Priscilla about faithful service behind the scenes?
7. Why is “strengthening disciples” just as important as reaching new people?

Application Questions

1. In what area of your life are you most tempted to become discouraged right now?
2. What fears tend to keep you from speaking openly about your faith?
3. Who has God placed in your life to encourage and strengthen you spiritually?
4. Who might God want YOU to encourage this week?
5. Are you trying to carry spiritual burdens alone instead of leaning on Christian community?
6. How can your workplace, neighborhood, or daily routine become a mission field?
7. What does quiet faithfulness look like in your current season of life?
8. Is there an area where you are considering giving up too soon?

Next Week: Acts 18:24-28