

Reflecting on Acts 18

Discussion Questions | September 18, 2022

Introduction: In Acts 18, Paul experiences the blessings and burdens of making disciples. In our study of this chapter, we can learn from Paul's team, troubles, and transition.

1. **Read Acts 18:1.** Paul's movement from Athens to Corinth highlights the idea that Paul strategically focuses on major cities along his missionary journeys. Why is it important that we also seek to reach our major cities with the gospel? How can a small-town church like ours participate in this mission? (Hint: Read Philippians 4:15-16 and 2 Corinthians 11:9 for part of your answer.)

2. **Read Acts 18:1-8.** This passage highlights Paul's growing list of fellow laborers in the gospel, including Aquila, Priscilla, Timothy, and Silas.

This question continues on the next page.

- Describe Paul's relationship with each of these individuals based on what we know from our study in Acts: What do they have in common? What are some differences between them and Paul? How do they work together with Paul?
- Discuss the importance of making disciples as part of a team.
- Who are some individuals you consider to be partners in the gospel? What makes you most thankful for their fellowship?

3. **Read Acts 18:1-4.** Aquila and Priscilla are identified with Paul as tentmakers; that is, mature Christians who are committed to obeying the Great Commission through careers that fall outside of vocational ministry (e.g., full-time pastors, missionaries, etc.). Explain why we need tentmakers today.*

4. **Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-3-5 and Acts 18:9-10.** In these verses, Paul confesses his own weakness and fear in ministering to the Corinthians, yet Luke records how the Lord rejuvenates Paul to boldly press on.

What fears and weaknesses have you experienced in your Christian walk? How has God brought comfort and refreshment to your heart through such trials? (Hint: There is a promise in Acts 18:10 that ought to sound familiar. See Matthew 28:19-20.)

5. **Read Acts 18:24-28.** In these verses, we are introduced to a gifted man named Apollos. While he is zealous for the Lord, he also needs additional training. Notably, he receives this instruction from Aquila and Priscilla (not Paul), and then continues to powerfully proclaim Christ.

- What can we learn about instructing leaders from the example of Aquila and Priscilla?*

- What can we learn about how to receive instruction from the example of Apollos?*

*These questions are based on questions from Tony Merida's commentary: *Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary: Exalting Jesus in Acts* (B&H Publishing Group, 2017)