

Bible Study 8 – Discouragement in Corinth – Acts 18:1-17

Paul was afraid and discouraged - a very familiar pattern was developing. He had come to the synagogue and spoken to the Jews. Although the leader of the synagogue embraced the gospel, most of the Jews in Corinth rejected his message. He turned to the Gentiles and there was an immediate response, a great flood of people coming in. This aroused the anger and hostility of the Jews. Next there would be a riot and a public beating and jail time and perhaps even an attempt on his life. It was all too predictable. So, it's understandable that Paul was battling fear and discouragement and, perhaps even depression.

The context	After the Day of Pentecost, the gospel was preached to Jews and then to Gentiles. Peter was the main preacher to the Jews & Paul was the main preacher to the Gentiles. Paul's first missionary journey was to Cyprus and south-eastern Turkey where they established churches. Legalistic Jews insisted that male Gentile believers be circumcised according to Jewish custom. But a meeting of the leaders of the church decided that this was not necessary. Then Paul went on his second missionary journey.
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PART 1 Read & then write each section in your own words – Acts 18:1-17

Preaching to Jews (v.1-5)	
Preaching to Gentiles (v.6-8)	
Vision (v.9-11)	
Opposition (v.12-17)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What does it teach about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit?

2. What does it teach about people?



3. Summarize a key verse in your own words.

4. In your opinion, what is the main point being taught in this passage?

5. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

6. Why do you think God spoke to Paul (v.9-10)?

Do we need to hear a similar message?

Why?

7. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

Paul was afraid and discouraged when Satan stirred up opposition to the good news about Jesus. But he was urged by God to continue preaching and teaching because many in Corinth would believe his message.



Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

I will
I will
I will

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a *COMMANDMENT* or *MODEL* for me to follow?

Share

Who will I tell about this Bible passage?

Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

Person	How will I help them?

Prayer

Date:

One thing you are thankful for.

One thing that's bothering you or causing stress.

Is there anything this group can do to help you?

Person	Prayer points