

## Acts Part 36

Is it important to verify results before we trust someone?

What does it take to trust?

What does it take to trust God? (I think the same things)

### **Acts 18:1-17**

After this, he left Athens and went to Corinth, 2 where he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul came to them, 3 and since they were of the same occupation, tentmakers by trade, he stayed with them and worked. 4 He reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath and tried to persuade both Jews and Greeks.

- Always busy!
- Paul was bi-vocational. He was a tentmaker
- Priscilla and Aquila. They were tentmakers (this could mean leathermakers)
- They had been kicked out of Rome





## Gospel Rhythms in a new location

(new job, new relationship, new apartment, new school)

1. Connect to other believers
  - Local synagogue (local church AND bible study, discipleship)
2. Live as a Christian
  - Read scripture
  - Pray
  - Confess
  - Forgive
  - Love
3. Talk about Jesus
  - At coffee shop, gym, grocery store, dog park, work
  - Worked all week, ministry on the weekend

5 When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself to preaching the word and testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Messiah. 6 When they resisted and blasphemed, he shook out his clothes and told them, "Your blood is on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."

- Paul is in his gospel rhythm, he knows he has good news! Do you?
- When do you know you can move on?
- When do we make ourselves available to all people, yet spend more time with those who are looking for truth?

### **1st Corinthians 15:33**

Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals."

### **Proverbs 22:24-25**

Don't make friends with an angry person, and don't be a companion of a hot-tempered one, 25 or you will learn his ways and entangle yourself in a snare.

### **1st John 2:19**

They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.

7 So he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God, whose house was next door to the synagogue. 8 Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, along with his whole household. Many of the Corinthians, when they heard, believed and were baptized.

- Titius Justus. Lived next door to the Synagogue
- Coincidence? God does this kind of thing ALL THE TIME for His people on mission!
- Crispus comes to Christ. All things are possible!

9 The Lord said to Paul in a night vision, "Don't be afraid, but keep on speaking and don't be silent. 10 For I am with you, and no one will lay a hand on you to hurt you, because I have many people in this city." 11 He stayed there a year and a half, teaching the word of God among them.

- Have no fear. Why?
- I am with you
- You won't be hurt
- I have MANY people in this city
- How many people were in the church at this time? Maybe 30.
- How big was Corinth at this time? 200k plus 500k slaves.
- 30 people, maybe 50? Not a lot

12 While Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack against Paul and brought him to the tribunal. 13 "This man," they said, "is persuading people to worship God in ways contrary to the law."

- Paul is persecuted again
- Naysayers are not the only ones following him from city to city

14 As Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "If it were a matter of wrongdoing or of a serious crime, it would be reasonable for me to put up with you Jews. 15 But if these are questions about words, names, and your own law, see to it yourselves. I refuse to be a judge of such things." 16 So he drove them from the tribunal. 17 And they all seized Sosthenes, the leader of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the tribunal, but none of these things mattered to Gallio.

- Emotion
- Mayhem
- Violence
- Changed hearts
- Salvation
- All a part of the early church

### **Isaiah 46:9-10**

Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose

The grass withers, and the flower fades, but the word of God stands forever.

Let's pray.