

Focus passage: Acts 18:18-28

18 After this, Paul stayed many days longer and then took leave of the brothers and set sail for Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had cut his hair, for he was under a vow. **19** And they came to Ephesus, and he left them there, but he himself went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.

20 When they asked him to stay for a longer period, he declined. **21** But on taking leave of them he said, "I will return to you if God wills," and he set sail from Ephesus.

22 When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church, and then went down to Antioch.

23 After spending some time there, he departed and went from one place to the next through the region of Galatia and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples.

24 Now a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures. **25** He had been instructed in the way of the Lord. And being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. **26** He began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. **27** And when he wished to cross to Achaia, the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. When he arrived, he greatly helped those who through grace had believed, **28** for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the Scriptures that the Christ was Jesus.

What stands out to you from this passage?

After spending time in Corinth with Aquila and Priscilla, Paul and these two leave for Syria, stopping in Ephesus. They ask Paul to remain with them in there, but what is his response?

Do we remain flexible in our life to such possibilities from God? If God called you to move--quit your job, uproot your family, etc--how would you react?

What did Paul do once he left Ephesus? Why do you think it was important for him to leave Aquila and Priscilla behind?

These two disciples later meet Apollos in Ephesus. What is Apollos doing and what do Priscilla and Aquila do to help?

Do you think if Paul had stayed in Ephesus that Priscilla and Aquila would have ever been in the position to help strengthen and lead Apollos themselves?

Paul allowed others to serve and minister for Christ. Do you find it hard to let others step in and contribute? Why?

*Paul's work was to help preach the gospel and equip others to do the same. **Read 2 Timothy 2:1-2** to see Paul describe this process. Can you think of people who have helped share the gospel with you? Are you now doing the same for others?*

How can you apply this Scripture to your life?

