

Discipleship is a Process Notes

Acts 18:1-28

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Main Point: God providentially works through people in process to accomplish His purposes.

Paul's Partnerships

1. Christianity is a _____ sport.
 - Paul mentions over _____ people by name in his New Testament letters.
 - Without supportive friends and partners throughout the world, the gospel would not have spread as _____ as it did.
2. _____ is a key part of discipleship (proverbs 27:17).
3. Friendships develop through shared _____.
 - Some of the best friends you will ever find are those you meet as you minister together.
4. People are more important than _____.
5. It's beneficial to have friends who are _____ from us.

Corinth

1. Corinth was known for international commerce and rampant _____.
2. It's main attraction was the Temple of Aphrodite or Venus.

How God Works His Purposes

1. See your _____ as a platform for ministry (vs. 1-3)
 - God providentially _____ for Paul to meet Aquila and Priscilla.
 - Aquila and Priscilla settled in Corinth because of Emperor Claudius' anti-Semitic _____ in Rome. (This occurred in A.D. 49).
 - They met in the work setting while making _____.
 - Your occupation is a _____ from God, which means you can worship God through your work as you seek ways to witness for Him.
 - On the Sabbath, he reasoned with Jews and Greeks, striving to persuade them to follow Christ.
 - Eventually, when Aquila and Priscilla returned to Rome, they hosted a church in their home.
2. Be quick to _____ what God has given to you (vs. 5).
 - Silas and Timothy arrive in Corinth with an _____ from the Philippian church so Paul could stop working and focus on full-time ministry (Philippians 4:15).
 - This allowed Paul to be "occupied with the word" which means "to be _____ by Scripture, to be pressed and compelled."
 - Because of the faithful giving of God's people, Paul was able to _____ himself exclusively to the exegesis and exposition of the Scriptures.
3. Live on mission with your _____ (vs. 7-8).
 - God moved Paul into a relationship with Titus Justus.
 - Paul went from living with a Jewish-background couple to hanging out with a _____.

- God purposely has you living where you are for His _____.
 - 1 Corinthians 1:14 tell us Paul baptized Crispus.
 - His entire family came to faith in Christ.
4. Keep _____ for God (vs. 9-11).
- Paul dealt with _____ (vs. 9-11).
 - God encouraged Paul by reminding him of three promises:
 - His _____ – The Lord was with him (Matthew 28:20).
 - His _____ – “No one will attack you to harm you.”
 - His _____ – Paul needed to keep preaching because God had providentially prepared many people to come to Christ (John 10:16).
 - Paul ministered in Corinth for 18 months.
5. Ask God to work through _____ officials (vs. 12-17).
- The Jewish leaders accused Paul of breaking the law and brought him before a government official named Gallio.
 - Gallio through _____ the case out and drove Paul’s enemies away.
 - The enemies were so upset they seized Sosthenes, the new synagogue ruler, and _____ him.
 - Later, Sosthenes came to Christ and served as a ministry partner with Paul (1 Corinthians 1:1).
6. View every place you go as a platform for _____.
- Paul set sail for Syria.
 - His next stop was Ephesus where he went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.
 - The Ephesian believers wanted Paul to stay _____ (vs. 20).
 - Paul knew his life was under the sweet sovereignty of God (James 4:15).
 - Paul did end up returning to Ephesus according to Acts 19:1.
 - Paul continued his journey back to his sending church in _____.
 - After he spent time there, he launched his third missionary journey (vs. 23).
 - He was so committed to helping Christians grow, he traveled far and wide to equip them.
 - The word “strengthen” means “to fix, establish _____, to confirm.”
7. Be a disciple who _____ others.
- A disciple is a believer who lovingly follows Jesus and _____ helps others follow Him.
 - We’re to grow and bring others along with us (2 Timothy 2:2).
 - Alexandria
 - Was the second-most important city in the Roman Empire located in northern Egypt.
 - It was a city of scholars
 - It was home to one _____ Jews.
 - Apollos
 - Was a Jew born and raised in Alexandria.
 - He had a Greek name.
 - He was _____.
 - He was competent in the Scriptures – to be “competent” means to be “fixed, firm, mighty, and _____.”
 - He had been instructed in the way of the Lord – “The way of the Lord” refers to the first coming of the _____.
 - He was fervent in spirit – This word refers to “_____.”

- He taught correctly but _____ – he only knew about the baptism of John.
 - Apollos didn't comprehend grace because John preached a gospel of _____.
 - He didn't have a full understanding of the _____ work of Christ, His glorious resurrection, and the promised filling of the Holy Spirit.
- Priscilla and Aquila initiated a discipling _____ with Apollos.
 - They took him aside _____ to fill in the gaps for him.
 - After he was discipled, he wanted to _____ those who lived in Achaia (vs. 27-28).
 - Apollos received a lot of _____ from a band of brothers in Ephesus.
 - When he arrived, he “_____ helped” those who “through grace had believed.”
- The discipleship chain didn't start with Paul. It goes back to _____ who spoke into Paul according to Acts 9:17.
- Barnabas stood up for Paul.
- Other believers poured into Paul (Acts 9:19).

Action Steps

1. Attend a growth group or elective.
2. Look for ways to intentionally live on mission on your campus, in your workplace, and in your neighborhood.
3. Identify a Christian you know who has some gaps in their doctrine or practice and reach out to them this week.
4. If you are not presently in a discipling relationship, what steps will you take to join one?
5. How can you intentionally disciple your children or grandchildren (Psalm 78:5-6)?