

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of September 18, 2014

This Week's Focus: How the power of the gospel comes to the city of Corinth.

This Week's Text: Acts 18.

"Let every man abide in the calling wherein he is called and his work will be as sacred as the work of the ministry. It is not what a man does that determines whether his work is sacred or secular, it is why he does it."

A.W. Tozer

*And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. **1 Corinthians 2:1-5***

Related Texts: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Romans 10:17; Matthew 16:13-17; Mark 8:31-33; Daniel 7:13-14

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- How has God spoken to you regarding the sermon and/or text?
- Paul left Athens and traveled to Corinth. What do we learn about Corinth?
- Verse 2 introduces us to Aquila and Priscilla. What do we learn about them from these verses and other biblical references?
- Have you ever felt alone? What is the hardest part of being alone?
- Discuss how this friendship might have refreshed their souls.
- Discuss the diverse stages in the Corinthian gospel mission, including how the gospel teams worked together.
 - How might we work together in building gospel teams?

- How did Timothy and Silas contribute to the ministry of Paul and the Word? Reference 1 Thessalonians 3:6-8 and 2 Corinthians 11:4.
- What was Paul's gospel-witnessing modus operandi when he came into a city? Why?
 - Discuss the response of those in the synagogue.
 - Why did Paul respond the way he did?
 - When do you think that response is appropriate? Inappropriate?
- In verses 9-10 God visits Paul in a vision. Discuss what God says and why.
- Can you relate to what might have been going on with Paul?
- We should not take a text like this and simply apply it to ourselves. What can we apply to ourselves? What shouldn't we to apply to ourselves?
- What words of Jesus do you find most encouraging? Why?
- Can you remember a time when you were ministering in word and deed and became discouraged because you were not seeing results? How did the Lord encourage you?
 - How might we encourage one another?
- In verses 12-17 Paul is brought before the tribunal. What were the charges and the outcomes?
- In verse 24 we are introduced to Apollos. What were some of his strengths? Weaknesses?
- In our narrative the posture, attitude, outlook, and task of all God's people was to declare the gospel.
 - How might we do the same?
 - What are some obstacles?
- In verses 5 and 28 it says that Paul and Apollos tried to persuade people that Jesus is the Christ.
 - What does that mean?
 - Read Matthew 16:13-17, Mark 8:31-33 and Daniel 7:13-14. Discuss the reasons why both Peter and the Jews in the synagogues could not accept a crucified Messiah.

Gospel Celebration:

- Jesus is the crucified Suffering Servant and the Risen Christ!
- God is building gospel teams to live on mission.

Next Week's Text: Acts 19