

# Encourage Me: Part 7

May 3, 2020

Acts 18:1-11 After these things he left Athens and went to Corinth. <sup>2</sup> And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, having recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. He came to them, <sup>3</sup> and because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and they were working, for by trade they were tent-makers. <sup>4</sup> And he was reasoning in the synagogue every Sabbath and trying to persuade Jews and Greeks. <sup>5</sup> But when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul began devoting himself completely to the word, solemnly testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. <sup>6</sup> But when they resisted and blasphemed, he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles." <sup>7</sup> Then he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God, whose house was next to the synagogue. <sup>8</sup> Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his household, and many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized. <sup>9</sup> And the Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid any longer, but go on speaking and do not be silent; <sup>10</sup> for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city." <sup>11</sup> And he settled there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

- 1Cor 13:7 Love always perseveres.
- 2Cor 1:8f We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death.
- 1Cor 2:3 ..in weakness and fear, and with much trembling.
- Paul at Corinth- 1½ years (Acts 18:11)
- Paul at Ephesus- 3 years (Acts 20:31)
- Luke- 7-8 yr ministry at Philippi (Acts 16:20-17:1 & 20:6-21:18)
- Philip- 20 yr ministry at Caesarea (Acts 8:40- 21:8f)

## I. Reasons for Discouragement

- 1) wickedness-  
1Cor 5:1 & 1Cor 6:9-19
- 2) lonelines
- 3) weariness-
- 4) repeated rejection-  
Acts 18:6 "Your blood be on your own heads."

## II. Resources for Keeping On

- 1) solid friendships- Acts 18:2 There he met 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.
  - Acts 18:2f Paul went to see them, <sup>3</sup> and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them.
  - Heb 3:12f See to it brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.
  - Prov 18:24 The man that makes friends must show himself friendly.
- 2) Paul worked with his hands- Acts 18:3
  - Phil 4:15
  - 1Cor 9:14; 1Tim 5:17; Gal 6:6
- 3) Paul maintained his spiritual priorities- Acts 18:4
  - Acts 18:5 Paul began devoting himself completely to the word.
  - Acts 18:8 Many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized.
  - Gal 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
  - Acts 18:9 One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision, "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent."
  - Acts 18:10 "I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city."