

WEEKLY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of Sunday August 30, 2026

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INTRODUCTION

In **Acts 18:1–11**, Jesus is not asking Paul to manufacture results or pretend he is fearless; He is inviting him to trust His presence and keep speaking faithfully. We often feel the tension between knowing what God wants us to do and wondering how people will respond. Fear, discouragement, or feeling unqualified can tempt us to stay quiet or give up. This passage reminds us that obedience belongs to us, while the outcome belongs to God. As we talk together, consider where God may be inviting you to trust Him and take a faithful next step.

Main Passage:

Acts 18:1–11

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Don't Be Silent

READ ALOUD

Acts 18:1–11

Opening Question: What is something that becomes harder for you when you have to do it alone?

- What do you notice about what God was already doing around Paul when he arrived in Corinth?
- What does the Lord tell Paul to do in verses 9–10?
- Why do you think God's promise to be with Paul mattered so much in this moment?
- Where might fear of someone's response keep us from doing what God is asking us to do?

APPLY

- Where in your everyday life—home, work, school, or relationships—might God already be working around you?
- Who is someone you care about whose response to Jesus you may be trying to carry instead of trusting God with the outcome?
- What fear, insecurity, or excuse most often makes it difficult for you to speak about Jesus or live openly for Him?

RESPOND

- What is one act of obedience you can take this week, regardless of the outcome?
- Who is one person you can intentionally pray for, encourage, invite, or talk with about Jesus?

DIGGING DEEPER *(optional)*

Acts 18:12–17

- How does this situation connect with what God promised Paul in verses 9–10?
- What do you notice about the way God cares for Paul while Paul continues being obedient?
- How might remembering God’s faithfulness give us courage when obedience feels risky?

PRAY

Invite everyone to quietly consider where fear, discouragement, or concern about the outcome may be keeping them from obedience. Ask God to help you recognize where He is already working and give you courage to join Him there. Pray specifically for people in your families, workplaces, schools, and communities who need Jesus. Thank Jesus that He is with us and that transformation ultimately depends on His grace and power.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILIES

Acts 18:1–11

- Why do you think Paul might have been afraid?
- What did God tell Paul when he was afraid?
- How can knowing that Jesus is with us help when we feel nervous or afraid?
- Who is someone we could show the love of Jesus to this week?

For younger children: Remind your child that when Jesus asks us to do something, we can trust Him because He is with us.

For older kids or students: Where might following Jesus require you to speak up, take a risk, or do something different this week?

BIBLE READING PLAN (OPTIONAL)

Scripture to read as you pray this week:

- **Day 1:** Acts 19:1–7
- **Day 2:** Acts 19:8–12
- **Day 3:** Acts 19:13–20
- **Day 4:** Acts 19:21–27
- **Day 5:** Acts 19:28–41

What's Going On?

Acts 18 continues the story of the gospel spreading beyond Jerusalem and into cities throughout the Roman world. Paul arrives in Corinth after leaving Athens and begins working alongside Aquila and Priscilla while regularly teaching people about Jesus. He experiences both resistance and surprising fruit, Crispus, the synagogue leader, believes along with his household, and many Corinthians also believe and are baptized.

In the middle of Paul's fear and discouragement, the Lord tells him not to become silent but to continue speaking because He is with him. Paul's responsibility is faithfulness; God is responsible for changing hearts and producing the results.

A Bit of Background

Paul did not arrive in Corinth with an established ministry team waiting for him. Aquila and Priscilla had recently moved there after Emperor Claudius ordered Jews to leave Rome, and because they shared Paul's trade of tentmaking, Paul lived and worked alongside them.

What looked like unrelated circumstances had already positioned people around Paul before he arrived. Their meeting provides a practical picture of one of the chapter's major themes: God can already be at work in places and circumstances we do not yet understand.