



# ACTS

Of All the Apostles

**You Will Be  
My Witnesses:**

**Running the Race**

**Lesson 35**



# Corinth

## Acts 18:1-22

### Supplemental Scripture

Hebrews 12:1-3

**NOTE:** Familiarize yourself with this story. Study the supplemental Scripture and make notes on, but do NOT read from, these pages. To reinforce that these ideas are not your own, hold your Bible as you tell the story.

### Memory Verse

One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision. “Don’t be afraid,” he said. “Keep on speaking. Don’t be silent.” Acts 18:9 (NirV)

Quite a few lessons ago, we asked the question, “What would you do if, while running a race, the spectators began to shout against you?” Sometimes we handle things well the first time they happen, but seem to forget what God expects of us the more familiar we become with this “race of faith.” Let’s see what we can learn from Paul’s example as he continues to travel.

After Paul’s time in Athens, he left and went a little further south to the Greek city of Corinth. He met a Jewish couple there who were from Italy. Their names were Aquila and Priscilla. They were living in Corinth because the Roman Emperor, Claudius, had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Aquila and Priscilla were tentmakers, just like Paul. Paul visited with them, then he stayed and worked with them. But “every Sabbath day he went to the synagogue. He was trying to get both Jews and Greeks to believe in the Lord.” (Acts 18:4 NirV)

### Lesson Goals

Understand that even when Paul needed to work during the week, he continued to preach God’s Word

When Silas and Timothy finally arrived from Berea, Paul began to spend all his time preaching. He told the Jews that Jesus was the One they had been waiting for, the Messiah, the Christ, the Promised One from God.

Understand that Paul shared God’s word with those who would listen

And, as often happened, “the Jews opposed Paul. They treated him badly.” (Acts 18:6a NirV) And just as he and Barnabas had done in Pisidian Antioch, Paul told the people, “Anything that happens to you will be your own fault! Don’t blame me for it! From now on I will go to the people who are not Jews.” (Acts 18:6b NirV) Paul walked out of the synagogue and walked next door to Titius Justus’ house. Titius worshipped God. It was there, in Titius’ house, that the synagogue ruler, Crispus, came to believe in the Lord. His entire family believed, as well. “Many others who lived in Corinth heard Paul. They, too, believed and were baptized.” (Acts 18:8 NirV)

Understand that Paul shared God’s Word boldly and without fear

Then, “one night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision. ‘Don’t be afraid,’ he said. ‘Keep on speaking. Don’t be silent. I am with you. No one will attack you and harm you. I have many people in this city.’” (Acts 18:9-10 NirV) And so he did. Paul continued sharing about God in Corinth. In fact, he stayed there a year and half teaching them God’s word.

## Application

What did Paul do when faced with difficulties? Did he give up? No! Paul continued sharing God's Word and pointing people to Christ. How about you? Do you talk to people about the Bible? Do you tell your friends and family and anyone else that you meet about Jesus? If so, take comfort from our memory verse, "don't be afraid, keep on speaking. Don't be silent."

If you are not speaking and sharing, why not? Is it because you don't know God's word or His Son, Jesus? If not, what is stopping you. Let's talk about how you can come to know the God of the Universe the way Paul did and the way I have. And if you have already chosen to follow God, "don't be afraid." You have the awesome opportunity to talk about God to people who may not know that He loves them and gave His Son to pay the price for their sins.

But the Jews got together and tried to harm Paul. They took him to court charging him with "trying to talk people into worshipping God in ways that are against the law." (Acts 18:13 NIV) Paul was ready to speak up for himself but he didn't have to. The governor of that area, Gallio, was presiding over court that day. He answered the Jews and told them that had Paul really been committing a crime none of this would have been a waste of time for him. As it was, this was about the details of their own law and he refused to hear it. "He had them thrown out of the court." (Acts 18:17 NIV) No harm had come to him, just as God had told him in the vision.

Paul stayed a while longer in Corinth. From there he sailed to Syria and on to Ephesus. From Ephesus he went on to Caesarea. Once he landed there, he went to Jerusalem to greet the church and then he went back to Antioch where his second journey had begun.

## Review

1. Where did Paul go from Athens? (Corinth)
2. Who did Paul meet in Corinth? (the tentmakers, Aquila and Priscilla)
3. What did Paul do in Corinth? (He worked for a while making tents, then, when Silas and Timothy arrived, he began preaching full-time.)
4. What happened to Paul one evening? (God spoke to him in a vision and told him not to be afraid and not to stop speaking.)

Next Week  
Third Journey Begins  
Acts 18:23-28

# Preschool Lesson

**Sing:** “I like to go to church, I like to go to church. I like the happy songs we sing; I like to go to church.”

Paul had been in Athens, Greece. He left Athens and went to the city of Corinth. He met a Jewish couple there. They were from Italy. The husband was named Aquila and the wife was named Priscilla. Aquila and Priscilla made tents. Paul also made tents. Paul visited with Aquila and Priscilla, then he stayed and worked with them. But every week Paul went to the Jewish place of worship. He was trying to get people to believe in the Lord.

When Silas and Timothy finally arrived from Berea, Paul began to spend all his time preaching. He told the Jews that Jesus was the One they had been waiting for, the One God had Promised.

The Jews didn't believe Paul and they treated him badly. Because of this, Paul walked out of the synagogue and walked next door to Titius Justus' house. Titius worshipped God. It was there that the synagogue ruler, Crispus, came to believe in the Lord. His entire family believed, too. “Many others who lived in Corinth heard Paul. They, too, believed and were baptized.” (Acts 18:8 NIV)

Then, one night God spoke to Paul in a vision. “Don't be afraid,” God told him. “Keep telling people about me. I am with you.” So Paul obeyed. Paul kept sharing about God in Corinth. In fact, he stayed there a year and half teaching them God's word.

Paul stayed a while longer in Corinth. He visited a few other places and then went to Jerusalem to greet the church. Then Paul went back to Antioch where this second journey had begun.

Paul liked to go to church. Paul like to tell people about God. Do you like to come to church? Do you like to tell people about God, too? Who can you tell this week?

# Activities

**Memory Verse Activity** - Make three posters, each with one of the follow three phrases from the memory verse, “Don't be afraid.” “Keep on speaking.” “Don't be silent.” Use these posters to prompt your students as they work on Scripture memory. If appropriate, divide your group into three and have a contest to see which group can shout the loudest.

Sing “Be Bold,” and “Sure Foundation.”

Make edible tents. Use three graham cracker rectangles and cake frosting or peanut butter. Use one rectangle as the base with the other two in the form of an inverted “V”. Use frosting or peanut butter as your glue.

Don't forget to mark your wall map with the last “leg” of Paul's Second Missionary Journey.

Bring a tarp or a sheet to class. Drape it over a cord to create a tent. Share the lesson from under the tent!

As you continue memorizing Hebrews 12:1-3, focus on verse three again and allow for discussion. Talk about how this verse applies to the lives of your students whether it be at school, at work, or in their homes. Encourage your students with, “Don't be afraid . . . Keep on speaking. Don't be silent.” Acts 18:9 (Nlrv)



“Don't be afraid,” he said.

“Keep on speaking.

Don't be silent.”

Acts 18:9

# Racing Riddles

One night  
the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision.

“D\_n't be \_f\_ai\_,” he said.



“K\_e\_ \_n s\_e\_ki\_g.  
\_on'\_ b\_ si\_en\_.”



Acts 18:9

# **Racing Riddles**

One night  
the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision.

“Don't be afraid,” he said.



“Keep on speaking.”

Don't be silent.”



Acts 18:9



# Word Search

## Cities on Paul's Second Missionary Journey

r o c a n y s l e b s e t s m  
e a s o t a i p p i l i h p a  
s s s t i n d b w t l f e r r  
c h n u s t j e s u r l s u e  
i h e m s i v r r m y o s t e  
o t h o t e a e r a s e a c s  
l o t t h n h a n e n m l s s  
a m a h t e i p r i a i o r c  
s i g i f n g r e n g h n c i  
s t o t r o b a r n o e i s l  
e c i r d y y t a h g v c y l  
h t n i r o c h u m c a a d i  
b s b r i n g e s t o g o d h  
e e p l l o m n n u t r o t p  
r m e s s a g p h i l l i s f

Antioch

Troas

Philippi

Thessalonica

Berea

Athens

Corinth

Ephesus

Caesarea

# Word Search

## Cities on Paul's Second Missionary Journey

r o c a n y s l e b s e t s m  
e a s o t a i p p i l i h p a  
s s s t i n d b w t l f e r r  
c h n u s t j e s u r l s u e  
i h e m s i v r r m y o s t e  
o t h o t e a e r a s e a c s  
l o t t h n h a n e n m l s s  
a m a h t e i p r i a i o r c  
s i g i f n g r e n g h n c i  
s t o t r o b a r n o e i s l  
e c i r d y y t a h g v c y l  
h t n i r o c h u m c a a d i  
b s b r i n g e s t o g o d h  
e e p l l o m n n u t r o t p  
r m e s s a g p h i l l i s f

Antioch

Troas

Philippi

Thessalonica

Berea

Athens

Corinth

Ephesus

Caesarea