

HEROES

OF THE

FAITH

Ordinary Men and Women . . .
Super Ordinary Power

44

THE GOOD NEWS IS SPREAD IN EPHESUS

HEROES OF THE FAITH CURRICULUM—2012

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Taking church to the people



44

THE GOOD NEWS IS SPREAD IN EPHEBUS

Memory Verse:

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing people what is wrong in their lives, for correcting faults, and for teaching how to live right. ¹⁷ Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be capable, having all that is needed to do every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17 NCV)

Lesson Goals:

- #1 - Understand how ordinary Aquila and Priscilla were
- #2 - Discover what obedience led Aquila and Priscilla to do
- #3 - Desire to let God do extraordinary things in the life of the ordinary student

Audience:

Young, un-churched learners

Adaptable for all ages, including adults (See **For more training** on Activities page)

Scripture to Study:

Acts 18:1-28

Who can tell me what a hero is? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave and compassionate. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave and courageous and more, but not in the way you would expect.

Our heroes: Aquila and Priscilla

Their Heroic Feat: Help Spread the Good News

Helping to spread the Good News may not sound very heroic, but let's look at the facts and see what you think when you have heard the whole story!

As we have studied Paul as a hero of the faith, we have seen that he was surrounded by heroes as well. There was Barnabas and Silas. We meet two others today. After Paul and Silas left Philippi, they went through Thessalonica, Berea. From there, Paul went on to Athens alone. When he left Athens, he went to Corinth. It was there in Corinth that Paul met a Jewish couple. The husband's name was Aquila; his wife's name was Priscilla. They were new in Corinth. They had lived in Italy, but when the Jews were commanded to leave Rome, Aquila and his wife moved to Corinth, in Greece.

When Paul met Aquila and Priscilla, they found that they had something in common. They were tent-makers. Aquila offered Paul a job and he stayed with them and worked with them. Paul didn't stop telling others about Jesus simply because he needed to work, but Aquila and Priscilla had made it possible for Paul to make a little money so that he could continue to preach the gospel.

Silas and Timothy finally came to Corinth and they must have brought a gift of money with them, because once they arrived, "then Paul spent all his time preaching. He gave witness to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ." (Acts 18:5b NIV) The Jews in Corinth wouldn't accept Paul's message. Paul had shared the gospel with the Jews, but he would now begin sharing with those who weren't Jews. By doing this, Paul was following the promise God had given Ananias when Paul's sight was restored. (Acts 9:15)

Paul was in Corinth for a little while longer and when he left, Aquila and Priscilla went with him. They traveled to the evil city of Ephesus. Aquila and Priscilla stayed there, even though Paul traveled on. After Paul left, Aquila and Priscilla met a fellow Jew with a Greek name - Apollos. He had been born in Alexandria and he was a great speaker. Apollos had heard of the way of the Lord, Christianity. What he knew he taught well, but he only knew up to John's baptism.

When Aquila and Priscilla heard Apollos speak, they knew they had to do something. Here was an eloquent speaker with the desire to share what he knew, but he didn't yet understand the great gift God had offered in His Son. "They invited [Apollos] to their home. There they gave him a better understanding of the way of God." (Acts 18:26b NIV) And when Apollos wanted to go from Ephesus to Achaia, the believers in Ephesus "encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him." (Acts 18:27b NASB) Apollos was a huge help to the believers in Achaia and "he argued strongly against the Jews in public meetings. He proved from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ." (Acts 18:28 NIV) He was able to do that because Aquila and Priscilla did the same with him.

Aquila and Priscilla were not usually the speakers out in front of a crowd the way Paul and Apollos were, but they had a very important part in the ministry of Paul and Apollos. They helped in the background and they were faithful to the Scriptures, the word of God. Our memory verse explains to us the importance of the word of God, something Aquila and Priscilla understood. It says, "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing people what is wrong in their lives, for correcting faults, and for teaching how to live right. Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be capable, having all that is needed to do every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17 NCV) Thankfully you are here today listening to the Scriptures being taught. What is your response? The word of God isn't just for making you feel good, so that you can go home and forget it until next week. Scripture, or the word of God, is just that . . . God's word. All of it is inspired by God. Inspired means "God *breathed*." Knowing God's word, and applying it to your life is necessary if you desire to please God, if you desire to live a life that is obedient to Him. Once you know God's word, you can then follow Aquila and Priscilla's example and help others know and understand it as well.



YOU CAN BE A HERO, TOO!

When you live a life of faith in Jesus Christ, you don't have to leap tall buildings to be a hero. Aquila and Priscilla helped spread the Good News.

Do you know what the "Good News" is? It is the good news that God loves you so much that He sent His one and only Son to die the death you deserve. And in doing so, He offers you eternal life! Isn't that great news? Have you begun a relationship with this wonderful God? If not, let's talk. And if you have, are you telling others what you know? Follow Aquila and Priscilla's example this week and tell someone what you know.

PRE-SCHOOL!

LESSON

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Helping to spread the Good News may not sound very heroic, but let's look at the facts and see what you think when you have heard the whole story!

Paul continued traveling and went to Corinth. He met a Jewish couple. The husband's name was Aquila; his wife's name was Priscilla. Paul had something in common with Aquila and Priscilla. They were tent-makers. Aquila offered Paul a job and he stayed with them and worked with them. Paul didn't stop telling others about Jesus just because he needed to work, but Aquila and Priscilla made it possible for Paul to make a little money so that he could continue to preach the gospel.

Paul was in Corinth for a little while, but when he left, Aquila and Priscilla went with him. They traveled to the city of Ephesus. Aquila and Priscilla stayed there, even though Paul traveled on. After Paul left, Aquila and Priscilla met a fellow Jew with a Greek name - Apollos. He was a great speaker. Apollos had heard of Jesus, but did not understand, yet, about His death.

When Aquila and Priscilla heard Apollos speak, they knew they had to do something. Here was a great speaker who wanted to share what he knew, but he didn't yet understand the great gift of God - Jesus. "They invited [Apollos] to their home. There they gave him a better understanding of the way of God." (Acts 18:26b NIV) And when Apollos wanted to go from Ephesus to Achaia, the believers in Ephesus "encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him." (Acts 18:27b NASB) Apollos was a huge help to the believers in Achaia and "he argued strongly against the Jews in public meetings. He proved from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ." (Acts 18:28 NIV) He was able to do that because Aquila and Priscilla did the same with him.

Our memory verse explains to us the importance of the word of God, something Aquila and Priscilla understood. It says, "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing people what is wrong in their lives, for correcting faults, and for teaching how to live right. Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be capable, having all that is needed to do every good work." (2 Timothy 3:16-17 NCV) It is important to read and study the Bible, (the Scriptures). It is God's word to us.

ACTIVITIES!

- Memory Verse Activity - Make memory verse posters that look like an opened Bible. Use one color for the "cover" and cream or white paper for the inside. Print the memory verses, being sure to include the reference.
- Continue adding heroes' names and heroic feats to your "Heroes Banner."
- Sing the "The B-I-B-L-E," "Thy Word," "Ancient Words," "The Mission" or other praise songs related to the lesson.
- Re-enact the lesson.
- Make edible tents. Use graham crackers and marshmallow cream or peanut butter. Use sheet of fruit snacks and pretzels. Be creative!
- Track Paul's journey on a map.
- **For more training:** Read and discuss the memory verse. You might even want to read it in several different translations for clarification.
- **For more training:** Read Romans 16:3, 1 Corinthians 16:19, 2 Timothy 4:19. Aquila and Priscilla held a special place in Paul's heart. They are even on his mind at the end of his life (2 Timothy 4:19).

All Scripture
is inspired
by God.

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture
is inspired by God . . .
Using the Scriptures,
the person who
serves God will be
capable, having all
that is needed
to do every
good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture
is inspired by God and
is useful for teaching,
for showing people
what is wrong in their lives,
for correcting faults, and for
teaching how to live right.

Using the Scriptures,
the person who serves God
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having all that is needed
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2 Timothy 3:16-17

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HERO IN TRAINING

The Good News is Spread in Ephesus

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Scripture:

Acts 18:1-28

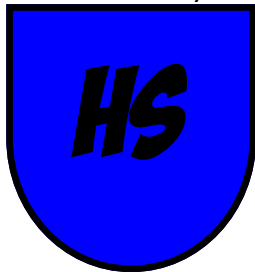
Memory verse:

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Our Heroes: _____

What did our heroes do that was so heroic? _____

What can you do to be a **Hero of the Faith**? _____



What power do Heroes of the Faith possess?

Do you have the power? _____

Review the memory verse. What is all of Scripture good for? _____

HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?
Unscramble the underlined words in the memory verse
and write them below.

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for cheating,
for goshwin poleep thaw si grown ni rithe viles,
for grintorcect taflus, and for hatchineg who ot veil grith.
Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be
capable, vaingh lal atht si dendeed
ot od reevy dogo krow.

Timothy 3:16-17

What is all of Scripture useful for?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

WORD

SEARCH!

S N L D J P T S O M F H B
N E N C W A Y O F G O D S
O H E S T U C U T O R E T
L T P T H L O L L D D H D
D S U S E H P E T B E T E
O R A A R L E G D R V I S
T E I P G A N P P E A Y H
S K L O D O T R H A S L B
T A L L S C R I P T U R E
E M A L E V E S L H B N F
P T I O P L S C I E A D L
H N E S R U O I P D N E K
P E E H T A H L P D R O W
N T D W S P A L I U Q A N
B S W O R S H A R U B C G

- Paul

- Aquila

- Priscilla

- tentmakers

- Ephesus

- Apollos

- way of God

- All Scripture

- God breathed

HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Answer Page

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?
Unscramble the underlined words in the memory verse
and write them below.

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for cheating,
for goshwin poleep thaw si grown ni rithe viles,
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Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be
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Timothy 3:16-17

What is all of Scripture useful for?

- 1) teaching
- 2) showing people what is wrong in their lives
- 3) correcting faults
- 4) teaching how to live right
- 5) having all that is needed to do every good work

WORD

SEARCH!

Answer Page

S	N	L	D	J	P	T	S	O	M	F	H	B
N	E	N	C	W	A	Y	O	F	G	O	D	S
O	H	E	S	T	U	C	U	T	O	R	E	T
L	T	P	T	H	L	O	L	L	D	D	H	D
D	S	U	S	E	H	P	E	T	B	E	T	E
O	R	A	A	R	L	E	G	D	R	V	I	S
T	E	I	P	G	A	N	P	P	E	A	Y	H
S	K	L	O	D	O	T	R	H	A	S	L	B
T	A	L	L	S	C	R	I	P	T	U	R	E
E	M	A	L	E	V	E	S	L	H	B	N	F
P	T	I	O	P	L	S	C	I	E	A	D	L
H	N	E	S	R	U	O	I	P	D	N	E	K
P	E	E	H	T	A	H	L	P	D	R	O	W
N	T	D	W	S	P	A	L	I	U	Q	A	N
B	S	W	O	R	S	H	A	R	U	B	C	G

- Paul

- Aquila

- Priscilla

- tentmakers

- Ephesus

- Apollos

- way of God

- All Scripture

- God breathed