



Title | In Weakness, Fear, and Trembling
Series | The Church that Changed the World
Text | Acts 18:1-17
By | Bob Kerrey
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Sermon Notes

Acts 18:1 After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. **2** And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, **3** and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. **4** And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks. **5** When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. **6** And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.” **7** And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. **8** Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. **9** And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, **10** for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.” **11** And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them. **12** But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal, **13** saying, “This man is persuading people to worship God contrary to the law.” **14** But when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, “If it were a matter of wrongdoing or vicious crime, O Jews, I would have reason to accept your complaint. **15** But since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves. I refuse to be a judge of these things.” **16** And he drove them from the tribunal. **17** And they all seized Sosthenes, the ruler of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the tribunal. But Gallio paid no attention to any of this. *ESV*

Big Idea:

Acts 18:9 And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, **10** for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people.”

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read Acts 18:1 and 1 Corinthians 2:1-3. How did Paul feel when he arrived in Corinth? Why do you think he felt that way? Have you felt similarly when facing something God has called you to do?

Tuesday:

Read Acts 18:1-17. How does the Lord reassure Paul in verses 9 and 10?

Wednesday:

Read Acts 18:9-10. What does it mean for the Lord to be with Paul? What does verse 10 suggest about the Lord's role in Paul's wellbeing and success? What difference does this make?

Thursday:

Read Acts 18:1-17. In what ways is it clear that the Lord was with Paul? In what specific ways did the Lord provide for Paul?

Friday:

Consider the idea that the Lord is with us and in charge of our wellbeing and success. To what extent is this idea helpful to you? How can you apply it to your life?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, thank you that you are with me and in charge of my wellbeing and success. Help me to rest in that. Amen.