

**Acts- Church Afire! “Mothers Who Multiply Faith,” Acts 18:18-28**  
**Sermon Summary & 5-Day Devotional May 10<sup>th</sup> , 2026 By Pastor Paul Hudson**

**Sermon Summary**

Priscilla and Aquila are exemplary figures in Scripture, demonstrating how committed faith involves walking alongside others. This sermon, drawn from Acts 18:18-28, highlights their dedication, as they journeyed and ministered with Paul despite challenges. Priscilla's prominent role, sometimes mentioned before her husband, reflects the crucial leadership position she occupied in the early church. Their story encourages us to help others grow spiritually while committing to be present through life's various seasons, just as mothers walk faithfully with their children. Through this commitment, relationships are deepened and faith is strengthened, reflecting a vital part of living out the Gospel.

Apollos, a knowledgeable man about Jesus, benefitted greatly from Priscilla and Aquila's guidance. They helped transform his knowledge into a spiritual relationship with Christ. This illustrates the difference between knowing intellectually about Jesus and experiencing a personal connection with Him—one that is fueled by the Holy Spirit. The narrative encourages us to help others transition from simply understanding the facts about Christianity to developing a true relationship with Jesus. By focusing on encouragement and cultivation rather than criticism, we can create environments where faith can flourish.

Priscilla and Aquila's involvement in Apollos' life highlights an essential lesson about the power of spiritual multiplication. Their contributions to Apollos' growth led to significant influence in the early church. This reflects how acts of faith, whether noticed immediately or not, are used by God to multiply His kingdom's influence. Mothers, spiritual mentors, and anyone investing in others' spiritual journey can trust in God's ability to magnify their impact beyond what we can see. This story encourages us to continue planting seeds of faith, confident that our efforts will bear much fruit in God's perfect timing.

**5 Key Takeaways**

**1. A Committed Faith Walks with Others**

Priscilla and Aquila demonstrate a faith committed to journeying with others through life's challenges. Just as they traveled alongside Paul, enduring hardships together, they embodied a faith that walks with others through life's ups and downs. Their partnership with Paul illustrates the importance of relational faith that is lived out by supporting and nurturing one another. This kind of committed faith is something we often see in mothers, who walk with their children no matter what, ready to support them through every stage of life. We are encouraged to identify those whom we can support in their faith journey, strengthening each other as part of our community of believers.

**2. Faith is More Than Just Knowing About Jesus**

Apollos was knowledgeable about Jesus but lacked a deeper relationship with Him, which Priscilla and Aquila recognized and nurtured. This aspect of faith highlights the distinction between intellectual understanding and a heart-level connection with Jesus. It reminds us that our relationship with Christ must be fueled by the Holy Spirit, moving it beyond mere knowledge to an invigorated spiritual life. Through this story, we understand the need to move others from knowing about Jesus to truly knowing Him. We must strive to deepen our own relationship with Christ and encourage others to experience the same transformative journey.

**3. Build Others Up, Don't Criticize**

Priscilla and Aquila's approach to Apollos demonstrates the power of encouragement and patience. Instead of criticizing his lack of understanding, they invited him into their home to

build him up. This gentle guidance is a vital part of our faith journey and especially crucial for those who mentor others, including mothers and spiritual mothers. We learn to create environments where others feel nurtured and supported. Constructive encouragement helps develop faith, allowing individuals to grow into their full potential in Christ. This example challenges us to take a nurturing, patient approach in our relationships, helping others grow closer to God.

#### **4. Faith Brings Multiplication**

The investment Priscilla and Aquila made in Apollos demonstrates how faith leads to spiritual multiplication. After their guidance, Apollos became a key figure in the early church, impacting many lives and helping the church grow. This principle is especially encouraging for mothers, as every seed planted in their children's lives holds potential for exponential spiritual impact. Whether the investment is seen immediately or not, faith can bring unexpected multiplication of influence. By nurturing others, we contribute to an ever-expanding impact for God's kingdom. We are reminded to trust in God's ability to multiply our efforts for His greater glory.

#### **5. Trust in God's Multiplication**

Priscilla and Aquila's story underscores the importance of trusting God with the outcomes of our faith investments. Although Priscilla and Aquila could not foresee Apollos' future influence, their faithful mentoring resulted in significant growth and impact in the church. This encouragement assures us that even when we don't see immediate results, our efforts have value. Mothers and mentors can find comfort knowing that God will multiply their efforts in ways they might not expect. Trusting in God's multiplication encourages us to continue investing in others' lives, assured that our faithfulness will bear fruit beyond what we can see right now.

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# 5-Day Devotional

## **Day 1 — A Committed Faith Walks with Others**

Scripture: Acts 18:18-19

Priscilla and Aquila's story is one of dedication and partnership. Together, they worked alongside Paul, demonstrating a faith committed to walking with others through life's challenges. Their willingness to risk their lives for the gospel exemplifies what it means to truly live out one's faith. In the context of motherhood, this mirrors how mothers and spiritual mentors walk alongside their children or mentees, nurturing and guiding them through all seasons. It's about the commitment to being present, offering support, and showing unwavering love, just as God walks with us.

*Reflection Question: How can you walk more closely with someone in their faith journey?*

## **Day 2 — Faith is More Than Knowing About Jesus**

Scripture: Acts 18:24-26

Apollos knew many facts about Jesus but was missing the deeper relationship brought by the Holy Spirit. Priscilla and Aquila helped bridge that gap for him. This highlights the critical difference between knowing intellectually about Jesus and experiencing a personal relationship with Him fueled by the Holy Spirit. As spiritual mothers and mentors, there's a call to help others move from head knowledge to a heart knowledge of Christ. This transformation invites a thriving, personal relationship with Jesus that is guided and ignited by the Spirit.

*Reflection Question: What areas of your faith might need a deeper relationship rather than just knowledge?*

## **Day 3 — Build Others Up, Don't Criticize**

Scripture: Acts 18:26; Ephesians 4:29

Priscilla and Aquila exemplified the grace-filled approach of building others up instead of criticizing. When encountering Apollos, they didn't judge him for what he didn't know. Instead, they invited him home, offering guidance and mentoring. This is a gentle reminder of the patience and love required in discipleship. We are called to encourage and edify those around us, helping them grow in their understanding and relationship with Christ. It's a lesson in humility and love, refusing to allow the spirit of criticism to overshadow the opportunities for growth and connection.

*Reflection Question: How can you encourage someone in their faith journey today?*

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#### **Day 4 — Faith Brings Multiplication**

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:5-8

Priscilla and Aquila's investment in Apollos led to his effective ministry and significant impact on the early church. This teaches us about the power of invested faith. By sowing into others, God brings about tremendous growth and multiplication. Often, we may not see the immediate results of our investment, but God uses our small acts of faith to create a ripple effect, impacting many lives. It's a profound reminder for mothers and mentors that the seeds planted in lives today can lead to tomorrow's leaders and influencers.

*Reflection Question: What are some small ways you can invest in someone's faith today?*

#### **Day 5 — Trust in God's Multiplication**

Scripture: Galatians 6:9

Priscilla and Aquila's faith investment flourished as Apollos became an influential teacher. Moms, spiritual mothers, and mentors constantly invest in others, often unaware of the far-reaching impacts. This truth reassures us that God multiplies our faithfulness, even if unseen. The seeds planted in love and patience will one day yield abundant fruit. We can trust that God honors dedication, using every lesson taught, every moment shared, and every prayer uttered to grow His kingdom in ways beyond our imagination.

*Reflection Question: Where is God calling you to trust Him in the multiplication of your efforts?*

**Study Questions**  
*Read Acts 18:18-28*

Observation

1. What professions did Priscilla, Aquila, and Paul share?
2. Where did Paul leave Priscilla and Aquila, and what was their role there?
3. How is Apollos described when he first appears in Ephesus?
4. What was the reaction of the local church when Apollos wanted to go to Achaia?

Interpretation

1. Why does Paul often mention Priscilla's name before Aquila's?
2. How did Priscilla and Aquila demonstrate a faith that walks with others?
3. What was lacking in Apollos' understanding of Jesus, and how was this resolved? How important is the role of the Holy Spirit in helping us to know Jesus?
4. How does the story of Apollos illustrate spiritual multiplication?

Application

1. How can you commit to walking with someone in their faith journey? What specifically does that look like? \*Has there been anyone in your life who walked with you in your faith journey when you were younger in the faith?
2. In what ways can you encourage others to move from knowing about Jesus to truly knowing Him?
3. How can you cultivate a nurturing environment that builds others up?
4. What are some investments you can make in others that might lead to spiritual multiplication?