



Sunday Morning, November 14, 2021 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

**Message Title:** Helpers in Christ

**Message Text:** Acts 18:1-4

### Introduction:

Paul left Athens to continue his second missionary tour. He left behind several believers who turned to Christ from the rampant idolatry of Athens. He journeyed on his own some fifty miles to Corinth, the capital city of Achaia. The wickedness of Corinth cannot be overstated. Yet Paul would spend eighteen months there faithfully laboring bi-vocationally to win the Corinthians to Jesus Christ. While in Corinth, God blessed Paul with two lifetime friends, who would become *helpers in Christ*, as well as reuniting him with Timotheus and Silas.

## 1. A Time of \_\_\_\_\_ (1)

### A. Without His \_\_\_\_\_ (1a)

*Acts 18:1 After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth;*

NOTE: Timotheus and Silas had not yet arrived from Thessalonica.

*Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. 10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.*

*Philippians 4:11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.*

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sermon notes



## B. Facing a \_\_\_\_\_ (1a)

NOTE: Corinth was 50 miles from Athens

CORINTH WAS THE CAPITAL OF ACHAIA — the city itself stood on a little island; it had two ports, Lechæum on the west, and Cenchrea on the east and was known for its trade.

CORINTH WAS \_\_\_\_\_ — in nationality, language and religion.

CORINTH WAS \_\_\_\_\_ — full of luxury; very effeminate; focused on the arts (Corinthian brass, capitals, and pillars); boasting in its philosophers.

CORINTH WAS A WICKED — The very term “Corinthian” came to mean a profligate. “To Corinthianize” meant to practice whoredom. The worship of Venus boasted of 1,000 female slaves who were free to strangers. Paul’s description of pagan vice, Romans 1:18–32, was written in Corinth. —Lenski

*Hebrews 13:5 ...for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*

“...for your Father knoweth what things ye have **need** of, **before ye ask Him.**”  
Matthew 6:8b

## 2. The Discovery of

\_\_\_\_\_ (2-3)

### A. The \_\_\_\_\_ in Rome (2)

*Acts 18:2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:)...*

NOTE: Likely Aquila and Priscilla had found Christ in Jerusalem at Pentecost or as result of the believers who returned to Rome from Pentecost.

QUOTE: [Claudius] expelled the Jews from Rome, who were constantly exciting tumults under their leader, Chrestus. —Suetonius, a Roman historian (Life of Claudius, ch. 25)

*Philippians 1:12 But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;*

## **B. The \_\_\_\_\_ in Corinth (3)**

*Acts 18:2c-3 ...and came unto them. And because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.*

### **THEIR PROFESSION — Tentmakers**

**QUOTE:** He that teacheth not his son a trade teacheth him to be a thief. —Rabbi Juda

*2 Corinthians 11:9 And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself.*

*1 Corinthians 9:14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.*

*1 Timothy 5:17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. {Honor—compensation}*

### **THEIR PASSION — Christ**

They Served Christ \_\_\_\_\_ — *Aquila and Priscilla (6x)*

They \_\_\_\_\_ Paul in Serving Christ — *Romans 16:3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:*

They \_\_\_\_\_ for Christ and His Work — *Romans 16:4 Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.*

They Opened Up there \_\_\_\_\_ — *1 Corinthians 16:19 The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.*

They were Friends until the \_\_\_\_\_ — *2 Timothy 4:19 Salute Prisca and Aquila...*

**QUOTE:** If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together? —African Proverb

We will discover our closest and dearest \_\_\_\_\_ along our journey  
in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord.

Godly friends will not \_\_\_\_\_ us, but \_\_\_\_\_ us to  
accomplish the will and work of the Lord.

### 3. A Season of \_\_\_\_\_ (4)

#### A. Initiating \_\_\_\_\_ (4a)

*Acts 18:4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath...*

DEFINITION—REASONED: to discourse; to consider or examine a topic  
in speech with others.

NOTE: Luke records this same action of Paul in Thessalonica, Athens,  
Corinth, and Ephesus.

#### B. \_\_\_\_\_ Conversion (4b)

*Acts 18:4 ...and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.*

DEFINITION—PERSUADED: convince

*Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able  
by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.*

*John 16:8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of  
righteousness, and of judgment:*

*1 Corinthians 3:6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.*

### Conclusion

\_\_\_\_\_ I be a helper in Christ?

\_\_\_\_\_ can I be a helper in Christ?

\_\_\_\_\_ can I be a helper in Christ?

To \_\_\_\_\_ can I be a helper in Christ?

