

## Sermon Discussion Questions

### Acts 18:1-17

### Sermon of 09/20/2015

A. A. Paul takes the gospel to *Corinth* – what are four characteristics of ancient *Corinth*?

1. geographically \_\_\_\_\_
2. economically \_\_\_\_\_
3. culturally \_\_\_\_\_
4. morally \_\_\_\_\_

Are their similarities between ancient *Corinth* and present day America?

B. Although not absolutely certain, some notable commentators believe that when Paul arrived in *Corinth* and began his ministry there, he was most likely facing some deep, personal discouragement. What factors might have contributed to this? (five were given in the sermon). See also *II Corinthians 1:8-10* for an explicit example of Paul's self-disclosure.

1. Do you face personal discouragement at this season in your life?
2. If so, how do you respond to discouragement? What is your coping technique?

C. God spoke directly to *Paul* in a *vision* in *verse 9*.

1. What was the first mandate (command) that God gave to Paul?
2. Read *Joshua 1*. Are there similarities that you see between *Joshua* and *Paul*?
3. The sermon suggested three biblical principles related to the issue of our fears.
  - i. Fear is \_\_\_\_\_. Why?
  - ii. Fear is \_\_\_\_\_ (see *Matt. 25:24-25*).
  - iii. Fear can be \_\_\_\_\_.

4. What three examples of controlling fears in the life of the Christian were given? Do you personally experience any of these fears?
  5. What was the second mandate that God gave to Paul in *verse 9*?
  6. What is the significance of the spoken word (see *Romans 10:17*)? What are the two main means by which we share the gospel with an unbelieving world? What is the danger of doing one but not both? Which one do you lean toward most heavily and why? Which one receives lesser emphasis and why?
- D. D. What is the relationship between God's commands and God's promises? In our text how does God provide both the mandate and the motive (*verse 10*). What three motives does God offer to us?
1. God's \_\_\_\_\_ (see also *Matt. 28:20* and *Heb. 13:15*)
  2. God's \_\_\_\_\_ (in what ways are you personally protected by God?)
  3. God's \_\_\_\_\_ (what are the two possible meanings of the phrase: *I have many people in this city*? Which one is more likely?)
- E. E. Application: What is "gospel self-talk" and why is it critical in the life of a Christian? Pastor Hopper cited 8 examples of this "gospel self-talk" (gleaned from Scripture and the Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 12, Adoption). List all 8 and explain how they are all rooted in the gospel?
- "In Jesus Christ, I am \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.  
I have a big Jesus and He is \_\_\_\_\_!"