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acts

CHURCH ON THE MOVE



How God Encourages His Discouraged Servants

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I came to you in weakness—timid
and trembling.

1 Corinthians 2:3 (NLT)

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How God Encourages His Discouraged Servants

1. He gives friendships in life.

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Then Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.

Acts 18:1 (NLT)

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There he became acquainted with a Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently arrived from Italy with his wife, Priscilla.

Acts 18:2a (NLT)

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They had left Italy when Claudius
Caesar deported all Jews from
Rome.

Acts 18:2b (NLT)

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Paul lived and worked with them, for
they were tentmakers just as he was.

Acts 18:3 (NLT)

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Each Sabbath found Paul at the
synagogue, trying to convince the
Jews and Greeks alike.

Acts 18:4 (NLT)

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And after Silas and Timothy came
down from Macedonia,

Acts 18:5a (NLT)

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Why we need old and new friends:

1. Life was meant to be shared.

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Why we need old and new friends:
2. To make it through life's troubles.

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Why we need old and new friends:
3. To guard against self-deception.

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How God Encourages His Discouraged Servants

2. He gives them fruit in the ministry.

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Paul spent all his time preaching the word. He testified to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah.

Acts 18:5b (NLT)

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But when they opposed and insulted him, Paul shook the dust from his clothes and said, “Your blood is upon your own heads—

Acts 18:6a (NLT)

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I am innocent. From now on I will go
preach to the Gentiles.”

Acts 18:6b (NLT)

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Then he left and went to the home of Titius Justus, a Gentile who worshiped God and lived next door to the synagogue.

Acts 18:7 (NLT)

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Crispus, the leader of the
synagogue, and everyone in his
household believed in the Lord.

Acts 18:8a (NLT)

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Many others in Corinth also heard Paul, became believers, and were baptized.

Acts 18:8b (NLT)

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How God Encourages His Discouraged Servants

3. He gives His faithfulness in hard times.

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One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision and told him, “Don’t be afraid! Speak out! Don’t be silent!”

Acts 18:9 (NLT)

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For I am with you,

Acts 18:10a (NLT)

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And no one will attack and harm
you,

Acts 18:10b (NLT)

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Then Jesus said, “Come to Me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28 (NLT)

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Don't be afraid, for I am with you.
Don't be discouraged, for I am your
God. I will strengthen you and help
you.

Isaiah 41:10a (NLT)

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I will hold you up with my victorious
right hand.

Isaiah 41:10b (NLT)

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The Lord is a shelter for the
oppressed, a refuge in times of
trouble.

Psalm 9:9 (NLT)

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Those who know your name trust in
you, for you, O Lord, do not
abandon those who search for you.

Psalm 9:10 (NLT)

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For I know the plans I have for you,”
says the Lord. “They are plans for
good and not for disaster, to give
you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)

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In those days when you pray, I will
listen.

Jeremiah 29:12 (NLT)

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If you look for Me wholeheartedly,
you will find Me.

Jeremiah 29:13 (NLT)

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Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you."

Hebrews 13:5 (NLT)

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The Lord is close to the
brokenhearted; He rescues those
whose spirits are crushed.

Psalm 34:18 (NLT)

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One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision and told him, “Don’t be afraid! Speak out! Don’t be silent!”

Acts 18:9 (NLT)

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For I am with you, and no one will
attack and harm you for many
people in this city belong to Me.”

Acts 18:10 (NLT)

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So Paul stayed there for the next year and a half, teaching the word of God.

Acts 18:11 (NLT)

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But when Gallio became governor of Achaia, some Jews rose up together against Paul and brought him before the governor for judgment.

Acts 18:12 (NLT)

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They accused Paul of “persuading people to worship God in ways that are contrary to our law.”

Acts 18:13 (NLT)

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But just as Paul started to make his defense, Gallio turned to Paul's accusers and said, "Listen, you Jews,

Acts 18:14a (NLT)

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If this were a case involving some wrongdoing or a serious crime, I would have a reason to accept your case.

Acts 18:14b (NLT)

But since it is merely a question of words and names and your Jewish law, take care of it yourselves. I refuse to judge such matters.”

Acts 18:15 (NLT)

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And he threw them out of the
courtroom.

Acts 18:16 (NLT)

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The crowd then grabbed Sosthenes,
the leader of the synagogue, and
beat him right there in the
courtroom. But Gallio paid no
attention.

Acts 18:17 (NLT)

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This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and from our brother Sosthenes.

1 Corinthians 1:1 (NLT)

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