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**[SERMON NOTES]**

**Acts – Week 18** (*Acts 18:1-6, 9-10, 18-19, 21, 23-28; 1 Corinthians 1:21-24; Galatians 6:9; John 3:30; Romans 10:14-15; 1 Corinthians 3:6-7; Matthew 13:1-23*)

There is one \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.

Most \_\_\_\_\_ are not paid \_\_\_\_\_.

The message must \_\_\_\_\_,

no \_\_\_\_\_!

There is one \_\_\_\_\_ but many \_\_\_\_\_.

There is more than one way to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

Our message is only \_\_\_\_\_ by the

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

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**[QUICK REVIEW]**

Looking at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

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**[MY STORY]**

We all love some good news. In a world that seems to fixate on the negative and fear-inducing things that are going on all around us, there is nothing better than some life-giving, joyous good tidings. **What is the best news that you have ever received? What is a message that you will never forget?** (no Jesus-joking and saying the Gospel message!)

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**[DIGGING DEEPER]**

This week we journeyed with Paul, Timothy, Priscilla, Aquila, and Apollos to see how they shared the message in the influential regions of Corinth and Ephesus. We were able to see them face opposition and suffering but also encounter success for the sake of the Gospel. It had everything to do with the way in which they brought the Message as well as the kind of messengers they were in bringing it. This week we will look at both the Message we're called to bring as well as the kind of messengers we're called to be.

Read the following verses. **What are some common conclusions that you can draw from these scriptures about the power of good news?**

1 Thessalonians 3:6

Proverbs 15:30

Mark 1:1

Luke 4:16-21

Proverbs 25:25

Luke 2:10

Mark 1:14-15

Luke 8:1

Read Matthew 13:1-9 & 13:18-23. *Reflect on your experience of hearing the Message of the Gospel for the first time as well as other experiences in your life of hearing a "message" from God. Name your seasons of life and which ones correlate to the different kinds of ground where the seeds fell: the path, rocky places, among thorns, or good soil.*

Romans 10:15 says, *"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"* As we learned this week: **most messengers aren't paid ministers.** In fact, we got a glimpse of Paul, Priscilla, and Aquila working their trade by making tents as they pursued the furthering and preaching of the Gospel in chapter 18. A third of our lives are spent asleep (*sobering, right?*), a third is spent going about doing things we enjoy or need to do for family or friends, but *the final third is spent at work.* The workplace is one of the least-reached mission fields of our day yet that is where, for many of us, our witness must start. **Spend a few minutes reflecting and then share with your group how your faith impacts your work and workplace. What are your fears and frustrations about integrating your faith into your work? Where have you seen God faithfully show up in your workplace? What opportunities or acts of obedience do you think God could be calling you to in your arena of work?** Another question to ask: ***How would Jesus go about working in your workplace alongside your coworkers if he were you?*** (*brief caveat, I know not everyone works or goes to a workplace, some are stay at home moms or dads, etc. I would encourage you to contextualize this question to your unique situation: how can you be faithful with the way you spend that "third" of your life?*)

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**[WEEKLY READINGS]**

Studies say that someone who reads their Bible 4 times or more a week improves their joy, happiness, contentment, and overall approval of their life. (*1 Tim. 4:8-10,16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17*). As a church, we believe that! Below are 4 passages of Scripture this week to dive into to pull deeper on our weekend's message. We encourage you to take notes in your Bible, and ask yourself: *What does this teach me about God? Myself and others? And how do I follow Jesus better?*

**Acts 18**

**Mark 1**

**Matthew 13**

**1 Peter 2**