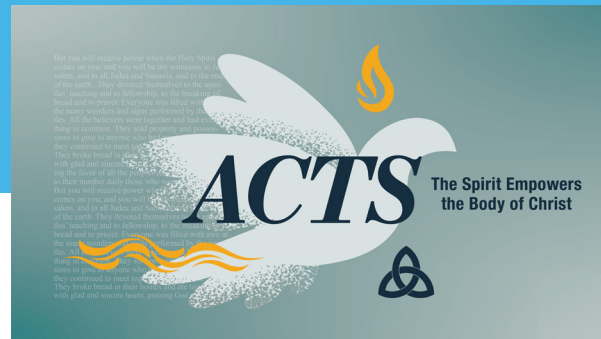


# Discussion Questions

March 16, 2025

## Acts 18:18-28

### Becoming More Like Jesus Through Community



#### 1. Read acts Acts 18:18

Paul shaves his head to mark the end of a vow, even though he is free from Old Testament rules. What motivated him to do this?

Share your own experience of choosing to engage in intentional practices like this.

How can choosing an intentional practice like that can help us grow closer to Jesus today? Do you see any concerns we need to watch out for?

#### 2. Read Acts 18:24-26

Apollos was passionate and knowledgeable, but his understanding was incomplete until Priscilla and Aquila mentored him. What does this show us about the role of humility and community in growing as a disciple?

How has community been a formative part of your own spiritual formation?

Have you ever been in a mentoring relationship? What was that like? What was its impact?

What can healthy mentoring relationships look like today?

3. Apollos had a ton of knowledge about Jesus & the scriptures, but had no knowledge or experience of Pentecost or the role of the Holy Spirit in following the way of Jesus. Can a believer today go through life, with no awareness of the role of the Holy Spirit? How will that impact their walk with God?

What practical ways should an awareness and pursuit of the power of the Holy Spirit make in our lives today?

How can we grow today in awareness and experience of the active role of the Holy Spirit in & through our lives?

4. We saw in the passage the shift that is made of Priscilla, Aquilla's wife, taking the prominent role in teaching and discipleship, like we saw earlier with Paul and Barnabas. With a recognition that people come from many different theological perspectives on this issue and that it can raise up passionate opinions, gently share what you think we can learn from her example and what, if any, areas you may have of concern on this topic.

5. As a group, discuss this scenario: "Someone in your life is a Christian, but seems stuck in their growth - like Apollos before mentoring. How could you approach them about pursuing a deeper walk with Jesus without discouraging them?"

6. The final three application points were a calling to intentionally pursue becoming more like Jesus, whether through **spiritual disciplines** (like Paul), **humbly seeking mentors** (like Apollos), or **pouring into others** (like Priscilla and Aquila), emphasizing that intentional relationships and practices shape us into Jesus' likeness. Are you challenged by any of these? If so, in which way?

#### Acts 18:24–28 (NIV)

Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.

When Apollos wanted to go to Achaia, the brothers and sisters encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him. When he arrived, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. For he vigorously refuted his Jewish opponents in public debate, proving from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Messiah.

#### Acts 18:18 (NLT)

Paul stayed in Corinth for some time after that, then said good-bye to the brothers and sisters and went to nearby Cenchrea. There he shaved his head according to Jewish custom, marking the end of a vow. Then he set sail for Syria, taking Priscilla and Aquila with him.

#### Acts 18:19-21 (NLT)

They stopped first at the port of Ephesus, where Paul left the others behind. While he was there, he went to the synagogue to reason with the Jews. They asked him to stay longer, but he declined. As he left, however, he said, "I will come back later, God willing." Then he set sail from Ephesus.

#### Acts 18:22-23 (NLT)

The next stop was at the port of Caesarea. From there he went up and visited the church at Jerusalem and then went back to Antioch. After spending some time in Antioch, Paul went back through Galatia and Phrygia, visiting and strengthening all the believers.



**Acts 18:24–26 (NIV)**

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**What we learn about Apollos in Acts 18:24-26**

- From Alexandria in Egypt
- Was very educated
- Knew the scriptures well
- Had been taught about Jesus
- Spoke with great Fervor
- Was a great teacher
- No knowledge of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- Speaks Boldly about Jesus.
- Understanding of the way of Jesus was incomplete

**Acts 18:26 (NIV)**

*When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.*

**Acts 18:27–28 (NIV)**

*When Apollos wanted to go to Achaia, the brothers and sisters encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him. When he arrived, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. For he vigorously refuted his Jewish opponents in public debate, proving from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Messiah.*

**Becoming More Like Jesus in Acts 18**

Like Paul - Engaging in a spiritual practice or vow for a season that aligns our life more with that of Jesus

Like Apollos - Humbly pursue others to mentor and pour into our lives

Like Priscilla & Aquila - Intentionally pour into and mentor others