SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

Acts

Chapter 18

Do Not Be Afraid; Go On Speaking

MEMORY VERSE · ACTS 18:9–10

“And the Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, “Do not be afraid any longer, but go on speaking and do not be silent; for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city.””

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in Acts 18

Paul came to Corinth tired, alone and afraid, and the Lord met him in the night with a promise: “I am with you.” This week Jesus says the same to you. Keep working, keep speaking, and watch for the people He has already put around you.

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The full Deep Dive, the O·I·A study and the slides for this chapter are on the Acts study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

Tentmakers

READ · ACTS 18:1–4

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Whom did Paul meet in Corinth, why were they there, and what work did they do together (18:2–3)?

REFLECT

Aquila and Priscilla were in Corinth because Claudius had thrown the Jews out of Rome (18:2). When has God used something that looked like a setback to put the right people in your life?

REFLECT

Paul made tents all week and reasoned in the synagogue "every Sabbath" (18:3–4). How could your job or your daily routine become a place where you serve God, not a break from Him?

RESPOND — TODAY

Do your work today as if Jesus were your boss — and look for one person you can encourage while you do it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (ACTS 18:9–10)

DAY 2 OF 5

Move Next Door

READ · ACTS 18:5–8

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How did the Jews respond to Paul, what did he say and do, and where did he go next (18:6–7)?

REFLECT

When they "resisted and blasphemed," Paul shook out his garments but moved only next door (18:6–7). When people reject your faith, what do you tend to do — quit, get bitter, or keep going?

REFLECT

Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, "believed in the Lord with all his household" (18:8). Who in your family are you praying will come to Christ, and what would it look like to keep loving them while you wait?

RESPOND — TODAY

Pray by name for one person who has rejected the gospel, and ask God to show you how to stay near them in love.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (ACTS 18:9–10)

DAY 3 OF 5

Do Not Be Afraid

READ · ACTS 18:9–11

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What two things does the Lord tell Paul to do, and what three reasons does He give (18:9–10)?

REFLECT

The Lord told Paul, "Do not be afraid any longer" (18:9) — so even Paul was afraid. What fear keeps you quiet about Jesus with the men around you?

REFLECT

"I have many people in this city" (18:10). Who in your city, your block or your facility might be one of God's people who has not heard yet?

RESPOND — TODAY

Say the memory verse out loud this morning, then speak one sentence about Jesus to someone today.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (ACTS 18:9–10)

DAY 4 OF 5

Gallio and the Road Home

READ · ACTS 18:12–23

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What was the charge against Paul, what did Gallio decide, and what did Gallio do when Sosthenes was beaten (18:13–17)?

REFLECT

Gallio "was not concerned about any of these things" (18:17). Where have you been fair and polite but indifferent about the things of God or the pain of someone near you?

REFLECT

Paul told the Ephesians, "I will return to you again if God wills" (18:21). How do you make plans? What would it look like to make real plans and hold them in God's hand?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write down one plan for this week and add "if God wills" beside it — then pray over it.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (ACTS 18:9–10)

DAY 5 OF 5

Take Him Aside

READ · ACTS 18:24–28

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What was Apollos good at, what was he missing, and how did Priscilla and Aquila help him (18:24–26)?

REFLECT

Apollos was eloquent, "mighty in the Scriptures" and "fervent in spirit," yet still needed to learn "more accurately" (18:24–26). Where do you need to keep learning, even in things you already know well?

REFLECT

Priscilla and Aquila "took him aside" instead of correcting him in public (18:26). Who has taken you aside like that, and who could you help that way — humbly and privately?

RESPOND — TODAY

Thank the person who helped you grow in Christ — call, write or tell them this week.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (ACTS 18:9–10)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

Corinth was a hard city, and the Lord still said, "I have many people in this city" (18:10). What would change in how we see our town, our families or our facility if we believed that?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Paul stayed a year and six months teaching the word (18:11) instead of moving on. What does it look like for us to stay with men long enough to really make disciples?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

Apollos was helped and then "greatly helped those who had believed through grace" (18:27). How is God using what others poured into you to help someone else right now?

MY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, You said "I am with you," so take away the fear that keeps me silent and help me to…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · ACTS 18:9–10

"And the Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid any longer, but go on speaking and do not be silent; for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city.""