

Study Guide for Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, '06. Journeying Mercies: Acts 18:18-28.

Introduction: List some people who have been companions on your (spiritual) journey in life? What made their time with you enjoyable? When have you been that for someone?

I. Another city – but not alone. (Acts 18:18-19a)

- A. Where does Paul go after Corinth?                      Who joins him?
- B. How did Paul benefit from not being alone?              How do we benefit from others?

II. A vow – fulfilled. (Acts 18:18-21)

Note: While the text of Acts does not specifically say Paul went to Jerusalem, it is implied in the language (went up) of vs. 22 and (went down to Antioch) vs. 23.

- A. Many think Paul was keeping some sort of Nazarite vow. Read Numb. 6:1-21.
- B. Why might Paul, advocate for freedom from the law, undertake such a vow?  
(see I Cor. 9:19-23)
- C. What is the lesson for us in this example of Paul?                      How should we  
become all things to all men so that by all possible means (we) might save some?

III. An open door – but some reservation. (Acts 18:19b-21)

- A. Describe Paul's reception at the synagogue in Ephesus?
- B. Why do you think Paul declined their offer to stay?
- C. What helps you not hold your plans too tightly? (see Pr. 27:1 & Js. 4:13-16)

IV. Another missionary journey – but not new territory. (Acts 18:23)

- A. Where does Paul begin this missionary journey from?                      Where does he go?
- B. What seems to be Paul's purpose?                      How can we strengthen other disciples?

V. A fellow laborer – but in need of instruction. (Acts 18:24-28)

- A. How did God use Apollos to advance the gospel in Ephesus?
- B. What do you think Priscilla and Aquilla shared with him?              How did they do it?
- C. How is Apollos ministry in Achaia described (see also I Cor. 3:5-9)

Conclusion: Effective ministry is a **team effort**. How can we model that at Grace?