

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 18:18-28 | LESSON SUMMARY

### Journey to Antioch

**ACTS 18:18**, "After this, Paul stayed many days longer and then took leave of the brothers and set sail for Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had cut his hair, for he was under a vow." (ESV)

- Traveling with Priscilla and Aquila
- Syria = he's headed back to Antioch, which at that time was contained within Syria
  - First century Syria was larger than modern day and under Roman rule
- Cenchreae = on the way, eastern harbor of

### Corinth

- Vow = Nazirite Vow
  - Paul may not have required the Gentiles to practice Jewish rituals, but he himself did. The Nazirite Vow involves fasting and the hair is cut off at a special ceremony at the temple.
  - It's about consecration, which is quite possibly something Paul felt the need to express because the intense worldliness of Corinth
  - Paul also shows an avoidance of legalism as he practices this Biblical observance in Cenchreae which is outside of Judea



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### Ephesus

- The two will figure prominently throughout Paul's ministry
  - Priscilla's name is often mentioned first. Her name is also thought to connect her to the very prominent family "Prisca" of Rome.
  - Both highly trusted and key figures in what Paul is able to accomplish throughout the course of his ministry.

### Apollos

**ACTS 18:24**, "Now a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures." (ESV)

- Competent and passionate—ideal qualities in an evangelist!
  - He's a Jew & a native of Alexandria, which implies that he is highly educated
  - Problem: there's a gap in his understanding of baptism (Acts 18:25)



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- This is why Paul entrusted Ephesus to Priscilla and Aquila: "...but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately."

- This is true discipleship
- As a result, a powerhouse of a communicator is properly equipped

**ACTS 18:27-28**, "...he greatly helped those who through grace had believed, for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the Scriptures that the Christ was Jesus." (ESV)

- Leaders emerging everywhere as a result of Paul's mission work

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:** Marie Noel Keller, Paul's Coworkers, Zondervan, Holman Bible Atlas, Acts: Archeological Study Bible, John B. Miller, Convinced That God Had Called Us

