



“More Than a Schedule: Knowing Who You Are and Why You’re Here”

Acts 18:1-23

KNOW

- Read Acts 18:1–8. What do verses 3–5 reveal about the relationship between Paul’s ordinary work and his calling to proclaim Christ? What does this teach us about living with God-given purpose in everyday life?
- Pastor Jon described a “Priority Grid”: *Identity = Who I am in Christ*; *Calling = What Christ has called me to devote my life to*; *Assignment = Where I serve Christ right now*. Why is it important to keep these three distinct?
- In Acts 18:9–11, God tells Paul, “*Don’t be afraid*,” “*keep on speaking*,” and “*I am with you*.” What do these words teach us about God’s presence and faithfulness when obedience is difficult?

FOLLOW

- How would you answer this: “*What has God called you to do with the life He has given you for His glory?*” What feels clear about your answer, and what still needs prayer and discernment?
- Where are you most tempted to build your identity around a role, title, career, relationship, ministry, success, or current assignment? What would it look like to root your identity more deeply in belonging to Christ?
- God told Paul to “keep on speaking” when he was afraid and weary (vv.9–10). What is one area where you need to keep praying, serving, loving, forgiving, witnessing, parenting, or simply showing up?
- Paul stayed in Corinth when God told him to stay but later left when the season changed (vv.11, 18–21). Where do you need wisdom to remain faithful, release an assignment, or follow God into something new?

REFLECT

- Paul worked as a tentmaker while remaining devoted to the gospel. How can your work, school, home, neighborhood, or daily responsibilities become a place where others see the character and mission of Jesus through you?
- God told Paul, “*I have many people in this city*” (v.10). How should that promise shape the way we pray for, serve, and speak about Jesus to people in Chicago who do not yet know Him?
- Paul would not let rejection drive him out of Corinth or acceptance keep him in Ephesus. Where might the desire for approval, comfort, or avoiding conflict be shaping your obedience to God?

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS

- What role, title, relationship, accomplishment, or assignment are you most tempted to use as a source of identity or significance?
- Where are you tired of doing what you believe God has called you to do? What would it look like to seek fresh courage instead of assuming the assignment is over?
- What area do you sense God asking you to stay, go, surrender, or freshly consecrate yourself to Him, but you have been resisting?

PRAYER PROMPTS

- Lord, remind me that my identity in Christ is...
- Lord, show me what You are calling me to devote my life to in this season, especially...
- Lord, give me fresh courage to keep going in...
- Lord, help me hold my plans and assignments with open hands when...

MEMORY VERSE:

- Romans 12:1 (CSB) *“Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship.”*