

## ***HOW DO WE FULFILL CHRIST'S GLOBAL MISSION?***

*(Part 1: Acts 18:1-11)*

As a church, we are totally committed to local ministry among our members, local evangelism and outreach in our own city and country, and global missions around the world. God has called each individual Christian and every local Christian church to spread the gospel of Christ and make disciple of all nations to the ends of the earth (Matt. 28:18-20; 24:14; Acts 1:8). As we study and reflect on Paul's gospel mission in the city of Corinth, we will learn three effective ways on how we could fulfill our role in carrying out Christ's global mission.

### ***1. We must \_\_\_\_\_ around the Great Commission.***

Acts 18:1-4 recounts how Paul begins his gospel mission in the city of Corinth. Corinth is a cosmopolitan city with a tremendous mixture of people of various races. It is known for its business and commerce, sports and entertainment, and idolatry and immorality. Paul did not view the city in terms of its economic prosperity, its cultural laxity, or its moral depravity. Paul saw the city of Corinth through the lens of Jesus and His Great Commission. For Paul, Corinth and its people desperately need the Lord Jesus and His saving gospel. When Paul lived and served the Lord in Corinth, he intentionally and purposefully structured and lived his life in this city to fulfill Christ's global mission. Consider these two strategic ways on how we could follow the example of Paul:

#### ***a. Treasure your fellow believers as \_\_\_\_\_ and lifetime \_\_\_\_\_.***

The Lord perfectly knows how to encourage His people just at the right time. By the time Paul reached Corinth, he was by himself with no companion. Physically, Paul may have not fully recovered from the severe beatings and floggings that he had received in the city of Philippi where he was imprisoned (Acts 16:16-40). Paul had also run out of money, with no financial funds at all to support himself and his gospel ministry. In the midst of these discouraging circumstances weighing on Paul, the Lord gave him Aquila and Priscilla who became his very dear friends and lifetime ministry partners (Acts 18:2-3; Rom. 16:3-4). This married couple offered their house and gave Paul a job as a tentmaker. We must value our fellow believers not only as our precious God-given friends but also as our lifetime ministry partners for the cause of the gospel.

#### ***b. Leverage your \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for the advance of the gospel.***

Paul has leveraged and made the most of his own vocation as a tentmaker in Corinth to advance the gospel of Christ. He has maximized the rhythms of his daily life for the advantage of the gospel. He worked as a tentmaker throughout the week and reasoned and preached Christ with the Jews and Greeks in the synagogue every Sabbath (Acts 18:4). Everything in Paul's life, the everyday rhythm and weekly schedule of this servant of God, revolved around fulfilling and carrying out the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus. Jesus and His gospel must likewise take the central priority of our everyday life.