

## **The Beginning of the Mission in Corinth**

**1. The Missionaries Stayed Longer than Usual in Corinth.**

**2. God Still Uses Faithful Households for Kingdom Purposes.**

**3. King Jesus Continues to Gather and Deploy His People.**

CONCLUSION: King Jesus continues to spread His Kingdom throughout the world through the proclamation of His reign and submission to His Word. While His gospel remains the same, its application differs from city to city. In Corinth Paul uses his skills not only in preaching but also in tentmaking. The Lord makes use of His people in Corinth to moderate opposition to the gospel and permit Paul and His missionary band to stay more than a year, evangelizing and discipling new converts to Christ. Even with the many differences in how the King goes about establishing His Kingdom on earth, He continues to use godly households for His purposes.

## Matthew 16: 13 – 20

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

## Ephesians 4: 7 – 16

<sup>7</sup> But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift. <sup>8</sup> Therefore it says,

*“When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.”*

<sup>9</sup> (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

# Taking Gathered Worship Home

King Jesus is establishing His Kingdom on earth just as He promised. He is able to do so not only through defeating the kingdoms of this earth, conquering the spiritual kingdom of evil, but also through overcoming our discouragement, weakness and fear. He does this through His powerful, miraculous Word. Take up and read!

*Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.*

## Sunday Morning

READ **Acts 18:1-11; Matthew 16:13-20; Ephesians 4:7-16**. DISCUSS, How does King Jesus build His Church? How certain is it that He will be successful? Why? What did you learn this morning about how He went about building His Church in Corinth? How was it the same as how He did so in other places? How was it different? PRAY “Lord Jesus, You alone are the King. Thank You for building Your Kingdom. Thank You for the privilege You give us to be a part.”

## Sunday Evening

**Young Adults Fellowship** at **6:00** pm. *Please come to FCCW's Library!*

## Monday

READ **Acts 18:1-11; Psalm 133:1-3; John 17:20-23**. DISCUSS, God provided Paul with co-laborers in Aquila & Priscilla after all three had been displaced with hardships. How does God's provision of brothers and sisters help us in growing more like Christ? MEDITATE on **Psalm 133:1-3**. PRAY “Sovereign King, thank You for the gift You give us in the fellowship of the saints.”

## Tuesday

READ **Acts 18:1-11; 10:1-2; 16:15, 31-14; 2Chronicles 31:11-19**. DISCUSS: How does God use households among His people for evangelism and discipleship? How are you encouraging your household to faithfully serve King Jesus? MEDITATE on **Psalm 133:1-3**. PRAY “Lord, forgive us for ways that we presume upon the riches of Your kindness. Teach us instead to repent.”

### Wednesday

READ **Acts 18:1-11; 1Kings 19:14-18; John 21:14-18**. DISCUSS, God often is gathering and or deploying His people without our awareness. Elijah thought that he was alone, yet God had 7,000 saints in that place. When do you feel most alone? What is something you need to repent from today? MEDITATE on **Psalm 133:1-3**. PRAY “King Jesus, teach us to trust in You. Forgive us for the ways we doubt Your goodness and/or power.

### Thursday

READ **Acts 18:1-11; 1Peter 5:6-11; Philippians 4:6-13** DISCUSS, What do you when you are discouraged? How does God’s sovereignty comfort you? Why can we trust Him? MEDITATE on **Psalm 133:1-3**. PRAY “Jesus, You are King of all things and you care for us! We praise You.”

### Friday

READ **Acts 18:1-11; Romans 1:18-23; Ephesians 1:15-23**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **Psalm 133:1-3**. PRAY “Lord King, we worship Your name, Jesus, for You alone reign supreme. Thank You for loving us and building Your Church through us.”

### Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both live-stream & in-person services are available.*

READ **Acts 18:1-28**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for the *live-stream or in-person service*. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

## Psalm 133: 1 – 3

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!  
It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!  
It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!  
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.