

“REAL Encouragement”

We all need IT!

Acts 18:1-11

Introduction:

How did Paul do it? Yes, by the power of God and knowing he was called to, but humanly speaking, how could he do it? He entered this passage discouraged and almost ready to call it quits. Look how Paul recalls his state of mind as he enters Corinth... I Corinthians 2:3

Paul's coming to Corinth was "in weakness and fear, and with much trembling" (1Cor 2:3).

God sustained Paul but He used people... Priscilla and Aquilla, Silas and Timothy, Justus and Crispus.

We can receive and give out encouragement because we are people who God wants to use in this way. Do you have a list of people you can go to? Lets discover what kind of people to put on that list.

For encouragement seek those who can:

I. Relate – “abode with them” (vs 1-3)

You can locate them but you must:

A. Find – “found”

B. Fellowship- “was of the same craft”

II. Embolden – “I will go” (vs 4-6)

You will feel:

A. Strengthened – “pressed in the spirit”
> **Strength in numbers**

B. Stretched – “brethren ... supplied”
II Corinthians 11:9; Philippians 4:14-15,

> **Stretch through supply**

III. Assist – “entered into a man’s house” (vs 7-8)

You are helped by their:

A. Possessions – “whose house”

B. Practice – “worshipped God”

C. Predicament – “joined hard to the synagogue”

D. Position – “chief ruler of the synagogue”

IV. Listen - “speak, and hold not thy peace” (vs 9-11)

Your listeners give you :

A. Confirmation – “I am with thee”
> **Help us know if we are in will of God and walking with Him**

B. Concentration – “I have much people”

C. Continuation - “ continued there a year and six months”