

**I. Ministry at Corinth** (v.1-11) - From Athens, Paul traveled to Corinth

## A. Some History of Corinth

1. Corinth was the political capital of Southern Greece and a heavily traveled crossroads for commerce and trade - Corinth had a reputation for commercial prosperity, but she was also a byword for evil living – to ‘live like a Corinthian’ meant to live with drunkenness and immoral excesses.
2. Athens was a city given over to idols and idolatry...
3. Corinth was a center of corrupt life, immorality, sensuality and debauchery.
4. God directed Paul to Corinth, for... He said... *I have many people in this city* (v.10).

## B. Partnering in Corinth: Aquila and Pricilla –

1. Recently arrived in Corinth from Italy (Claudius had expelled all Jews from Italy)
2. They met Paul, welcomed him into their home and worked with him making tents (v.3).
3. Aquila Pricilla became strong ministry partners with Paul: (they are mentioned in Acts, Romans 16:3, 1Cor 16:19 and 2Tim 4:19)

## C. Paul’s Ministry

1. Continued with the pattern of speaking in the synagogue on the Sabbath. (v.4)
2. Helped by Silas & Timothy, Paul devoted himself completely to preaching the word – declaring the *Jesus is the Christ* (v.5).
3. When there was serious opposition to him by the Jews, there was a turning point -> he said, *From now on I will go to the Gentiles* (v.6).
4. Fruitfulness: *Crispus, with all his household, believed on the Lord* (v.8)
  - a. *And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized* (v.8) – see the pattern!

## D. Jesus spoke to Paul at an important time... (v.9-11)

1. *Do not be afraid,*
2. *...but speak, and do not keep silent;*
3. *...for I am with you, and no one will attack you to hurt you;*
4. *...for I have many people in this city.”* (v.10)
5. *And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.* (v.11).

**II. On to Ephesus... and Caesarea... to Antioch** (v.18-28)

## A. We get glimpses of Paul’s ministry in these verses...

1. Pricilla and Aquila sailed with Paul from Corinth to Ephesus... spending a short time there.
2. From Ephesus, he traveled to Caesarea, up to Jerusalem, down to Antioch, Galatia... *greeting & strengthening all the disciples.* (v.23)

## B. Aquila and Pricilla’s ministry to Apollos in Ephesus... (v.24-26)

1. *An eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures...he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John...* (v.24-25)
2. *When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.* (v.26)
3. Marks of Apollos’ ministry...
  - a. *He greatly helped those who had believed through grace* (v.27)
  - b. *He vigorously refuted the Jews publically, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ* (v.28).