



HomeGroup **LEADER** Discussion Questions  
Week 7: Oct 24-30

**READ THE PASSAGE WITH YOU GROUP BEFORE YOU START THE DISCUSSION.  
THEN, PICK A FEW QUESTIONS BELOW THAT YOU THINK WILL BE MOST HELPFUL.**

Beautiful things grow out of the most unlikely places. The gravity-defying pine tree on a rocky mountainside. The bright flower in a desert landscape. Even the church in a pagan city. As Paul steps foot into Corinth, he's entering hostile territory to the gospel. Yet, even the toughest soil proves fertile when God is at work!

**MAIN TEXT:** Acts 18:1-11

**CONNECT**

1. Have you been through a difficult time when you knew that God was at work in it, in spite of the difficulty? If so, consider sharing the experience with your group.  
*Be sensitive to the fact that some may be in a difficult situation right now. It may be too "fresh" for people to share openly, but may also be a great invitation for others to share things that you may not have been aware of.*

2. What stood out to you about the sermon this week?

**LEARN**

3. As you read through verses 1-8, where do you see difficulties or opposition related to the gospel message? Where do you see indicators of God's favor?  
*The Jews staunchly oppose Paul in v. 6, something Paul has already experienced in the previous cities he's visited.*

*Paul sees God's favor in the new friendship with Aquila and Priscilla, the arrival of Silas and Timothy (who likely brought resources from Macedonia so Paul could be freed up from "tent making" to concentrate on preaching the gospel—see 2 Cor 8:1-15), and in the vision in vv. 9-10.*

4. Pastor Tom points out how God gives companions in ministry, which we see with Priscilla and Aquila, and Silas and Timothy joining Paul in Corinth. What impact do you think these relationships had on each other?

5. The vision in verse 9 must have been incredible! How might these words have impacted Paul's view of what was happening in Corinth?

Possible answers include encouraging or emboldening Paul, reminding Paul of God's sovereignty over all things and places, etc.

### APPLY

6. Pastor Tom highlights the vibrant influence that churches are intended to have on the surrounding community. What influence should Calvary have on our cities, especially in these days of COVID-19, natural disasters (wildfires), and political division?

7. How are relationships with people like Priscilla, Aquila, Timothy and Silas important—even essential—as we engage others with the gospel message? Who are these people for you...and to whom are you like one of them?

8. Corinth was a tough town for ministry, yet God makes it unmistakably clear that He was at work there. Do you think Erie, Thornton, or Boulder are tough towns for ministry? Why or why not? Regardless, what indicators do we have that God is at work in these places?

People will likely say these are tough places for ministry. This is not intended to be a time to be overly critical of our communities, but to recognize the challenges. Be sure to emphasize how God is at work in these places as well—in the homes of His people, in the schools where our kids attend or where we work, in our workplaces, and in our church!

9. Read the following verses and describe how God's presence is promised to us in difficult (and all) situations.

Joshua 1:5, 9

Psalm 23:4

Isaiah 41:10

Hebrews 13:5

This can be a good opportunity to have others in your group look up these passages and help them engage first-hand in discovering truth from Scripture.