

Committed to the Great Commission: Discipleship
Acts 18:24-19:7

FBC Yearly Theme Recap

- Our yearly theme is on this idea of Commitment. Specifically challenging us in our daily lives to be Committed to God rather than Committed to ourselves.
- And our goal as pastors on Sundays as we preach as well as in your fellowship groups and small groups is to challenge you to reevaluate your spiritual walk with God and see if you are truly committed to God or are you committed to yourself.
- There is no in-between. There is no such thing as a casual Christian.
 - o You are either a follower of God and fully committed to God in every aspect of your life or you are not a follower of God but rather a follower of yourself and your own desires which Paul calls in Eph 4:22 the old self which he calls true Christians to put off.
- And we have been going through the book of Acts focusing on our greatest calling of any follower of God any real Christian and that is our Commitment to the Great Commission.

Main Point of Acts 18:24-19:7

- Real Christians, Committed to God Christians, are always seeking every opportunity to make disciples of Jesus Christ and being discipled by Jesus Christ.

Acts 18:24-19:7

²⁴ Now a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was an eloquent man, competent in the Scriptures. ²⁵ He had been instructed in the way of the Lord. And being fervent in spirit,²⁴ he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. ²⁶ He began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. ²⁷ And when he wished to cross to Achaia, the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. When he arrived, he greatly helped those who through grace had believed, ²⁸ for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the Scriptures that the Christ was Jesus.

***19** And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland¹⁹ country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples.² And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."³ And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism."⁴ And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus."⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in⁶ the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. ⁷ There were about twelve men in all.*

Explanation of interactions:

- Apollos was bold and gifted but had an incomplete understanding of the Gospel of Jesus
- Priscilla and Aquilla – wife and husband were left in Ephesus by Paul. In attending the synagogue they heard Apollos and saw that God was with him and yet his knowledge of the gospel was incomplete. So they took him aside and disciplined him and explained to him the rest of the good news of Jesus Christ.
- Paul returns back to Ephesus and meets another group of men who do not know him and upon interacting with them sees that they know a little about the good news of Jesus but once again like apollo was incomplete. So Paul disciplines them and baptizes them in the name of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit filled them and these 12 men showed evidence of transformation.

How is the commitment to the great commission displayed specifically through discipleship from our text.

- Be Bold, Be Humble, Be Ready
- Be Bold like Apollos was in sharing the good news of Jesus even though he didn't have a full understanding of the Gospel
- Be humble to receive correction as you are bold
- Be Ready to disciple those that God places in your path like Priscilla, Aquilla did with Apollos and like Paul did with the 12 Ephesian men.

Application:

- And last week we had our missions weekend and the challenge that we wanted all of you to come away with his the "Wheat Wall" To take that slip of paper and put a name on it for you to share the gospel with.... Well I'm going to take it a step further.
- 1) If you did not put a name down and put it on the wall, I challenge you right now to take the paper and ask God to give you a name a name with in your sphere of influence someone you know that does not know Jesus as Lord and savior. Put that name down and put it on the wall.
 - 2) If you have put a name on that wall from last week. I challenge you right now to BE BOLD and call them, text them, email them, ask them to meet up with you this week today even and share the good news of Jesus Christ. Be Bold. Just do it.
 - 3) Also if you feel like you are lacking in something, feel convicted that you want to know more about Jesus and you want to give your life to Jesus but you feel like you need help and guidance. You are humble enough to admit you don't know it all and you want help. PUT your own name down on the sheet of paper and put it on the wall. And then go and talk directly to one of the pastors or elders or you fellowship leaders (right after this service) and we will gladly assist you in finding someone who will walk with you and disciple you.
 - 4) Finally if you know of someone who is in need of loving correction I challenge you to put their name down and put it on the wall, and you call them, text them, email them, ask them to meet up and lovingly listen to them but also speak truth to them with love. Don't come to the leaders to do it for you. We are more than happy to help, but God through the Holy Spirit has convicted you of this person and as such God is calling you to be bold and ready to confront them for God is with you to the end of the age.