



I Have Many in this City

Acts 18:1-17

Doug Sachtleben, Lead Pastor

December 6, 2020

Paul's experience in Corinth shows us how God is able to supply all that His servants need to be faithful witnesses, even in fearful or discouraging situations.

I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 1st Corinthians 2:3

Paul had experienced repeated persecution *prior* to Corinth, and Corinth was a city with a reputation for godless immorality and pagan worship.

Seven things that God provided for Paul in the midst of a time when he was battling fear and discouragement:

1. Community

2. Help

3. Truth

4. Hope

5. Perseverance

6. Exhortation

7. Confidence

Questions to Consider

1. What factors would likely have contributed to Paul's fear and trembling when he arrived in Corinth? Have you ever been afraid or discouraged as you walked toward an opportunity for disciple-making?
2. What are some specific things that you can do to help another believer who is facing discouraging circumstances, or is afraid about an opportunity to share the gospel?
3. Read Acts 18:6, where Paul responded to hostility from the Jews in Corinth. What lessons or applications might we take away from his experience as we encounter difficult people?
4. Read Acts 18:9-10. God may not give you a specific assurance of protection from any physical harm in a given situation. But what are the other assurances in these two verses, and are there other Bible verses that give the same assurances to us?
5. Read Romans 8:29-30 and Ephesians 1:3-6. How do these verses help us to understand God's assurance to Paul in Acts 18:10, that He already had many in the city who were His people, even before Paul had preached the gospel to them?
6. What evangelistic opportunity or ministry opportunity have you been thinking about that makes you anxious or discouraged? Ask some friends in your Home Group to pray for you and help you think about how God might have you approach this situation, and then rehearse the promises that God has already given that help you face this situation.