

Bible Point - God wants us to share the good news about Jesus.

Bible Verse

"Believe in the Lord Jesus" (Acts 16:31a).

Growing Closer to Jesus

Children will ■ discover that God can use all kinds of people to share the good news,

- hear how Priscilla and Aquila helped Paul and Apollos, and
- realize that God can use their skills and talents to spread the good news of Jesus.

Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

■ Priscilla and Aquila help Paul.

Acts 18:1-4, 18-28



When the apostle Paul met Aquila and Priscilla, they had something in common—all were away from their homeland, banned from Rome, now living in Corinth, and working on tents. Paul's trade as a tentmaker was probably learned in his youth. Even as a rabbi, he would have been expected to have a trade of some kind because rabbis were not to charge for their teaching services. And since there were no churches yet in most of the places Paul went to tell about Jesus, he had to use his tent-making skills to provide for himself.

After the three friends had traveled to Ephesus to tell Jews about Jesus, Paul moved on and left Aquila and Priscilla there to minister. When they ran into Apollos, they discovered that he was preaching about Christ but was missing a key part of Christian doctrine. We're not exactly sure what he wasn't teaching, but apparently he didn't know of Christian baptism and may not have realized that Jesus was actually the Messiah. Priscilla and Aquila invited Apollos into their home and filled him in on what Paul had undoubtedly taught them. And Apollos was able to go on from there, preaching about Christ more accurately and powerfully.

Prayer

- Read Proverbs 27:5-6.
- When have you been helped by a friend who confronted you with something you needed to address?
- Pray: God, help the children in my class learn to be good friends, even when...

Before the Lesson

- Collect the necessary items for the activities you plan to use. Refer to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies columns to determine what you'll need.
- Make photocopies of the "Today I Learned..." handout (at the end of this lesson) to send home with your children.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.

This Lesson at a Glance

Learning Lab Supplies	Classroom Supplies	What Children Will Do	
	"Butterfly Name Tags" (p. 26), markers, tape or safety pins	Welcome! —Receive name tags, and be greeted by the teacher.	Welcome Time
	Old bedsheets, books, pillows	Option 1: Tentmakers —Make tents, and then spread good news to each other.	Let's Get Started
	Shelf paper, large sponge, tempera paint, paper plate, newspaper, wet wipes	Option 2: Wherever You Walk—Make footprints to show that we can tell about Jesus wherever our feet take us.	Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until
BOOK	Old bedsheet	Option 3: The Book Tent —Sit in a tent and tell stories about Jesus.	everyone arrives.
	CD player	Pick Up Our Toys —Sing a song as they pick up toys, and gather for Bible Story Time.	
	"Time to Travel" handout (p. 181), crayons or markers, tape, construction paper	Setting the Stage —Act out ways to travel, and learn how Paul told people about Jesus.	Bible Story Time
	Bible, construction paper, scissors, CD player, basket or box	Bible Song and Prayer Time —Sing a song, bring out the Bible, and pray together.	
TANNER TO THE PARTY OF THE PART	Modeling dough, coffee stirrer, paper, tape	Hear and Tell the Bible Story—Make motions as they listen to Acts 18:1-4, 18-28 and learn about Priscilla and Aquila.	
	CD player	Do the Bible Story —Walk under Priscilla and Aquila's tent while they sing about sharing the good news.	
		Pockets Jumps for Jesus— Teach Pockets that God uses all our skills to spread the good news about Jesus.	Closing
	CD player	Tell Everywhere —Sing a song, hop to Mark 16:15-16, and praise God.	Livelti
-	*See the end of this le		

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Welcome Time

■ Welcome!

SUPPLIES: "Butterfly Name Tags" handout (p. 26), markers, tape or safety pins

- Bend down to make eye contact with children as they arrive.
- Greet each child individually with an enthusiastic smile.
- Thank each child for coming to class today.
- As children arrive, ask them about last week's "Today I Learned..." activities. Use questions such as "Who were your 'purple people' this week?" and "What good news did you share this week?"
- Say: Today we are going to learn that **►** God wants us to share the good news about Jesus!
- Hand out the butterfly name tags children made in the first lesson, and help them attach the name tags to their clothing. If some of the name tags were damaged or if some of the children weren't in class that week, have them make new name tags using the photocopiable patterns.
- Direct the children to the Let's Get Started activities you've set up.



Set up one or more of the following activities for children to do as they arrive. After you greet each child, invite him or her to choose an activity.

Circulate among the children to offer help as needed and direct their conversation toward today's lesson. Ask questions such as "Who teaches you the good news about Jesus?" or "Why is it important for us to tell others the good news about Jesus?"

Option 1: Tentmakers

SUPPLIES: old bedsheets, books, pillows

Set out your choice of tent-making items such as old bedsheets, pillows, chairs, books, and tables. Allow children to work together to create two or three tent "forts." Encourage a few children to wait in each tent until another child opens the tent and says, "Good news!" Then have children play Follow the Leader, spreading the good news to each tent. Explain that today's Bible story is about a man and woman who were tentmakers and helped others learn about Jesus.

■ Option 2: Wherever You Walk

SUPPLIES: shelf paper, sponge, tempera paint, paper plate, newspaper, wet wipes

Before this activity, place a large, damp sponge on a paper plate, and then pour 3 or 4 tablespoons of tempera paint on the sponge to make a paint pad. Place the paint pad and a length of shelf paper on a newspaper-covered table.

Show children how to make a fist and then gently press their fists—pinkie-side





It's important to say the Bible Point just as it's written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point over and over throughout the lesson will help kids remember it and apply it to their lives.





You may want to add a few drops of liquid soap to the tempera paint for easy cleanup.



Your 5- and 6-year-olds are proud of their accomplishments. They can have their feelings hurt easily, but they are beginning to gain selfconfidence.

down—in the paint pad. Then have children press their fists on the paper to make footprint shapes. Children may "ink" each of their fingers and press them above the footprints to make toes. (The thumb is the big toe, and the pinkie is the little toe.) Have them work to make a path of footprints across the paper. Explain that we can tell the good news about Jesus anywhere our feet take us! Distribute wet wipes for clean-up.

Option 3: The Book Tent

SUPPLIES: old bedsheet



Set up a tent by draping an old bedsheet over a table. Place Bible Big Books from previous lessons inside along with other picture books about Jesus. Have children sit in the tent with partners and "read" the stories by looking at the pictures together. Explain that in today's Bible story, two tentmakers helped Paul tell about Jesus.

When everyone has arrived and you're ready to move on to the Bible Story Time, encourage the children to finish what they're doing and get ready to clean up.

Pick Up Our Toys

SUPPLIES: CD player



Lead children in singing "Pick Up Our Toys" (track 2) with the CD to the tune of "Skip to My Lou." Encourage the children to sing along as they help clean up the room.

If you want to include the names of all the children in your class, sing the song without the CD and repeat the naming section. If you

choose to use the CD, vary the names you use each week.



Make sure to return Learning Lab items back to the box when you're done using them so they can be used in future lessons!

SING

We will pick up our tous. We will pick up our toys. We will pick up our toys And put them all away.

There's [name] picking up toys. There's [name] picking up toys. There's [name] picking up toys, Putting them all away.

(Repeat.)

Bible Story Time

■ Setting the Stage

SUPPLIES: "Time to Travel" handout (p. 181), crayons or markers, tape, construction paper Before this activity, tape six different colors of construction paper to different walls of your room. Photocopy the "Time to Travel" handout, and cut apart the cards. Color the rectangle at the top of each card a different color to match the colors of the papers mounted on the walls.

Tell the children you'll clap your hands to get their attention. Explain that when you clap your hands, the children are to stop what they're doing, raise their hands, and focus on you. Practice this signal a few times. Encourage children to respond quickly so you'll have time for all the fun activities you've planned.

Have the children sit in the center of the room.

Ask: • How did you get here today? (In a car; we walked; we took the bus.)

• What other ways do people travel? (Boats; trains; airplanes; space ships!)

Say: Let's play a game to practice some of the different ways we travel. I'll hold up a card for everyone to see. Then we'll pretend we're traveling like the person in the picture. We'll travel to the paper that's the same color as the square on the card.

Lead children in pretending to drive, row, fly, chug, or gallop to the designated areas of the room. When you've gone through all the cards, have the children sit down in the middle of the room.

Say: Traveling is lots of fun! The Apostle Paul traveled mostly by ship so he could share the good news about Jesus with people who were very far away. ►God wants us to share the good news about Jesus. We can walk, bike, or ride in a car to reach people who don't know Jesus. For now, let's sail like Paul did to our Bible story area so we can hear today's good news.



■ Bible Song and Prayer Time

SUPPLIES: Bible, construction paper, scissors, basket or box, CD player



Before class, make surprise cards for this activity by cutting construction paper into 2x6-inch slips. Prepare a surprise card for each child plus a few extras for visitors. Fold the cards in half, and then stamp the "Good News" stamp inside one of the surprise cards. Bookmark **Acts 18:1-4**, **18-28** in the Bible you'll be using.

Have the children sit in a circle. Say: **now it's time to** choose a Bible person to bring me the Bible marked with

today's Bible story. As we sing our Bible song, I'll pass out surprise cards. Don't look inside your card until the song is over.

Lead the children in singing "Read God's Book" (track 3) with the CD to the tune of "The Muffin Man." As you sing, pass out the folded surprise cards.

SING

Now it's time to read God's book, Read God's book, read God's book. Now it's time to read God's book. Let's hear a Bible storu.

Now it's time to read God's book. Read God's book, read God's book. Now it's time to read God's book. Let's hear a Bible story.

(Repeat.)





After the song, say: You may look inside your surprise cards. The person who has the newspaper stamped inside his or her card will be our Bible person for today.

Identify the Bible person, and then have the rest of the children clap for him or her. Ask the Bible person to bring you the Bible. Help the Bible person open the Bible to the marked place and show children where your story comes from. Then have the Bible person sit down.

Say: [Name] was our special Bible person today. Each week we'll have only one special Bible person, but each one of you is a special part of our class! Today we're all learning that \triangleright God wants us to share the good news about Jesus.

Let's say a special prayer now and ask God to help us obey him. I'll pass around this basket. When the basket comes to you, put your surprise card in it and say, "God, help me share the good news about Jesus."

Pass around the basket or box. When you've collected everyone's surprise card, set the basket aside, and pick up the Bible. Lead the children in this prayer: **God, thank** you for the Bible and all the stories in it. Teach us today that **▶**you want us to share the good news about Jesus. In Jesus' name, amen.

■ Hear and Tell the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: modeling dough, coffee stirrer, paper, tape



Before class, press a bit of modeling dough into the bottom of one-half of a plastic egg. Tape a 2-inch triangle of white paper to a coffee stirrer, and then press the stirrer into the modeling dough. Use this as your "boat."

Form a circle and place the opened *Learning Mat: Good* News! Paul's Missionary Journeys in the middle of the circle.

Place the boat at Philippi. Say: Our Learning Mat shows us pictures of Paul's missionary journeys.

Ask: • Whom did Paul meet in Philippi? (Lydia; a lady who sold purple cloth.)

• What happened when Ludia heard the good news about Jesus? (She believed it; she was baptized; she told other people, too.)

Choose a child to move the boat from Philippi to Corinth while other children pretend to row. Say: This is where our next story takes place. Before we hear about Paul's adventures, find a partner and sit on the floor facing each other so the bottoms of your feet are touching your partner's feet. Pause while children follow your instructions. **Now, when you hear me talk about** traveling, join hands with your partner, and rock back and forth like you're rowing. Have children practice "rowing." When you hear me say the names Priscilla and aquila, put your hands over your head and touch them to your partner's hands to make a tent. Have children practice making "tents." Listen carefully while I tell you of Paul's adventures! Read the following story, cuing children to do the appropriate motions.

Paul left the city of Athens and continued traveling to Corinth. There, he met a man named Aquila and his wife, Priscilla, who made tents. In Bible times, many people lived in tents. They could carry their tent houses with them wherever they went or put tents on their roofs to sleep in during the hot summer. Lots of people needed tents, so Priscilla and Aquila were very busy. Since Paul knew how to make tents, he helped Priscilla and Aquila. During the week they'd work, eat, and talk about God together. Then on the Sabbath, Paul went to the synagogue and talked with people there, teaching them that Jesus was God's Son.

Paul stayed in Corinth with Priscilla and Aquila for many days. When it was time for Paul to leave, his friends Priscilla and Aquila went with him! They all sailed to the city of Cenchrea and then to Ephesus, where Priscilla and Aquila decided to stay and teach people about Jesus. Paul wanted to continue traveling—he couldn't stay in one place until people everywhere knew the good news about Jesus! So Priscilla and Aquila waved goodbye to their friend, Paul, as he traveled back toward Jerusalem.

Soon Priscilla and Aquila met another traveling teacher named Apollos. So Priscilla and Aquila made friends with Apollos and taught him everything they'd learned from Paul. Before long, Apollos was excitedly spreading the good news about Jesus to everyone in Ephesus! But Apollos didn't want to stop in Ephesus—he wanted to travel and tell people everywhere about Jesus! So Priscilla and Aquila helped Apollos leave Ephesus to spread the good news in more countries. Because Priscilla and Aquila worked and taught and encouraged other Christians, people for hundreds of miles around got to hear about Jesus.

Ask: • How did Priscilla and Aquila help Paul? (They gave him a job; they were his friends; they told people about Jesus, too.)

• Who else did Priscilla and Aquila help? (Apollos; other Christians; the people in Ephesus.)

Say: Each time Priscilla and Aquila are mentioned in the Bible, someone is hearing the good news about Jesus. In the Bible book of Romans, Paul says he's thankful to his friends Priscilla and Aquila. They helped spread the good news about Jesus while they worked as tentmakers! \triangleright God wants us to share the good news about Jesus, too. It doesn't matter if you're a tentmaker, a doctor, a missionary, or a kindergartner...anyone who knows and loves God can spread the good news about Jesus!



■ Do the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: CD player track 20

()

Choose two children to be Priscilla and Aquila. Have them stand and face each other and then raise their arms and touch their hands together to form a "tent."

Say: While we're singing "The Good News," we'll walk through Priscilla and Aquila's tent. When we sing the last line in each verse that says, "All the good news about Jesus," they'll bring their arms down to capture one or two people. To get out of the tent, those people must tell something good about Jesus, such as "Jesus loves us," "Jesus died for our sins," or "Jesus is God's Son." Then whoever was caught in the middle may choose a partner and become the next Priscilla and Aquila. Ready?

Lead children in singing "The Good News" (track 20) to the tune of "The Mulberry Bush" with the CD. After each verse, pause the CD player so children can think of and

share their good news about Jesus. Encourage children to choose partners who haven't yet been Priscilla or Aquila.



God wants us all to share the news, Share the news. Share the news. God wants us all to share the news, All the good news about Jesus!

Paul was sent out to tell the world, Tell the world. Tell the world. Paul was sent out to tell the world All the good news about Jesus!

Lydia heard and she believed, She believed. She believed. Ludia heard and she believed All the good news about Jesus!

Priscilla and Aquila knew. yes, they knew. Yes, they knew. Priscilla and Aquila knew All the good news about Jesus!

In a stormy sea, Paul shared the news, Shared the news. Shared the news. In a stormy sea, Paul shared the news, All the good news about Jesus!

Now you and I can tell the world, Tell the world, Tell the world. Now you and I can tell the world All the good news about Jesus!



When the song ends, turn off the CD player and gather children in a circle.

Ask: • What good news can we share about Jesus? (He loves us; he's God's Son; he's powerful; he's waiting for us in heaven.)

• How can you share that special news? (By telling people; singing songs about Jesus; bringing people to church.)

Say: ►God wants us to share the good news about Jesus. We can be like Priscilla and Aquila, who shared the good news themselves as they helped Paul and Apollos. Have children make a large tent by standing in a tight circle and touching their hands together overhead. Pray: Dear God, thank you for loving us and sending your Son, Jesus, so we can be forgiven for all the bad things we've done. Help us tell everyone we



know the wonderful news about Jesus. Show us ways to tell people that Jesus loves them, too. In Jesus' name, amen.

Now let's see if Pockets knows how to tell others about Jesus, too.

Closing

■ Pockets Jumps for Jesus

SUPPLIES: none

Bring out Pockets the Kangaroo, and go through the following puppet script. When you finish the script, put Pockets away and out of sight.



Pockets: Hey! Anybody heard any good news lately?

Teacher: Yes, Pockets, we've been hearing lots of good news about Jesus! Who

can tell Pockets about the good news we heard this morning? (Have children explain that God gave Paul some special friends who helped him

tell the good news about Jesus.)

Pockets: Why did Paul need friends to help him? I thought he just traveled all

the time and told people about Jesus himself.

Teacher: Paul did travel a lot, but he needed friends to talk to, to plan with, to work with,

and to help him. Paul wasn't the only one God used to share the good news! Who else does God want to share the good news about Jesus? (Allow kids to respond with

answers such as us, kids, people today.)

Pockets: (Discouraged.) Paul must have been a great preacher. But I'm not!

Teacher: I don't think Priscilla and Aquila were great preachers, either. At least the Bible

doesn't tell us they were. The Bible says they were tentmakers.

Pockets: What does tent-making have to do with sharing the good news about Jesus?

Teacher: Well, Priscilla and Aquila let Paul help them make tents. While they worked on the

tents, they talked about God. Priscilla and Aquila gave Paul a job, a home, and their

friendship. God can use your skills too, Pockets.

Pockets: What skills? I'm not good at very many things.

Teacher: Well, God takes what we're good at and finds a way to use it. What's something you

like to do?

Pockets: (Thoughtfully) I like to talk...oh, I know! I jump! I love to jump and jump! and jump!

Teacher: Here's a chant from Mark 16, verses 15 and 16. I think you can jump to it wherever

you go, Pockets. Listen:

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus said, "Go every-, everywhere!

Tell, tell, tell the good, good news To all the people here and there!"

Then count how many times you can jump without stopping—one jump for each

person you'll tell the good news!

Pockets: Hey, I can do that! Here, you children say it with me! (Repeat chant.)

Teacher: That's great, Pockets. And you shared it with us! Now go share it

everywhere you go!

Pockets: I'm gonna try! Before long, everyone on my block will know about Jesus!

'Bye! (Exits repeating the chant.)

Permission to photocopy this script from Group's Hands-On Bible Curriculum®, Pre-K & K, granted for local church use. Copyright © Group Publishing, Inc., 1515 Cascade Ave., Loveland, CO 80538. HandsOnBible.com



SUPPLIES: CD player





Gather children and have them sit in the middle of the room. Say: Our Bible verse for today comes from Acts 16:31a, and this is what it says: ►"Believe in the Lord Jesus." Everybody everywhere can have a chance to know about Jesus so they can believe, too. Let's listen to a special song about believing in Jesus.

Read the lyrics to the children, and then play "Believe in the Lord Jesus" (adapted from Acts 16:31) (track 21) on the CD to the tune of "The Bear Went Over the Mountain."



Believe in the Lord Jesus. Believe in the Lord Jesus. Believe in the Lord Jesus, And you will be saved.

(Repeat.)



That was great singing! ►God wants us to share the good news about Jesus. Pockets' chant is another good way that you can use your energy, smiles, and happy voices to tell people about Jesus. Let's hop just like **Pockets.** Lead children in the following chant and allow them to hop to the beat. As children hop, encourage them to spread out around the room.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus said, "Go every-, everywhere! Tell, tell, tell the good, good news To all the people here and there!"

Say: Now you've traveled to different parts of the room, just as Paul traveled to different parts of the world! Find two friends nearby, just like Priscilla and Aquila. Pause while children form trios. Form a huddle with your friends, put your hands in the middle, and cheer, "Rah, rah, ree! God can use me! Rah, rah, roo! Whatever I can do! Thaaaaanks, God!" Allow children to cheer, celebrating the ways God can use them.



Growing closer to Jesus extends beyond the classroom.

Photocopy the "Today I Learned..." handout (at the end of this lesson) for this week, and send it home with your children. Encourage parents to use the handout to plan meaningful family activities to reinforce this week's topic.



For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

Lively Learning: Tentmaker Tag

Choose one person to be "It." Have the other children form Tentmaker pairs. Have them link arms and scatter around the room. Explain that It will take giant steps and try to tag the Tentmakers, who are only allowed to skip. If Tentmakers are tagged, they must stop moving, face each other, and make a tent by touching their hands together over their heads. Partners must remain frozen until another pair of Tentmakers skips through their tent. After a few moments, choose another child to be It, and form new partners. Remind children that God used two tentmakers to tell people about Jesus.

Make to Take: Prayer Tent



Set out safety scissors, crayons, glue, paper plates, slips of paper, and large plastic cups. Show children how to cut a 1-inch semicircle on the top edge of their cups. Then allow children to decorate the cups with crayons. Demonstrate how to spread glue on the lip of a cup, turn it over, and glue it to a paper plate to make a tent.

Give children each three or four slips of paper, and allow them to draw pictures of people they'd like to tell about Jesus. Show how to fold the drawings and slide them

through the opening in the "tent." Children may pull a drawing from the tent each day and pray for the people they've drawn.

■ Treat to Eat: Tasty Tents

Set out paper plates, plastic knives, graham crackers, and bowls of whipped topping. Help children lean two graham-cracker halves against each other and spread whipped topping over the crackers to make white tents. Before eating the tasty tents, have children tell a partner one way they'll spread the good news about Jesus this week.

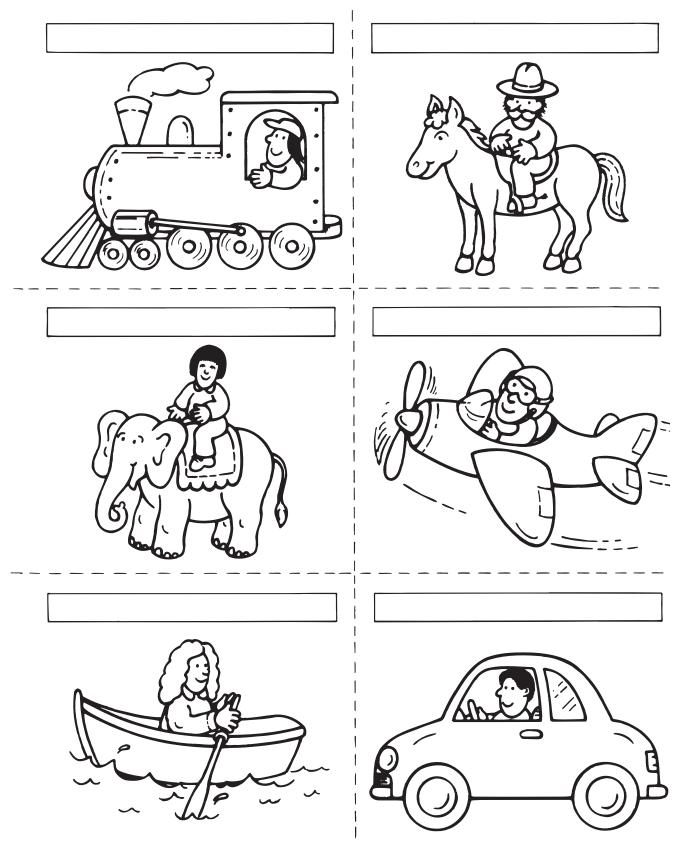


Story Picture: Priscilla and Aguila Help Paul

Hand each child a photocopy of the "Today I Learned..." handout. Set out scraps of fabric and allow the children to glue the fabric to the tent. As children color their pictures, remind them that Priscilla and Aquila used their skills to help them share the good news about Jesus.

Time to Travel

Photocopy the handout, and enlarge it if necessary. Cut apart the cards, and color each box to match the construction paper you've taped to the wall.



Today I learned...

Today your child learned that God wants us to share the good news about Jesus. Children heard how Priscilla and Aquila helped Paul tell people about Jesus. They learned that God can use everyone's skills and talents to help spread the good news about Jesus.

God wants us to share the good news about Jesus.

Verse to Learn

"Believe in the Lord Jesus" (Acts 16:31a).

ask Me...

- What did Priscilla and Aquila do?
- Who encourages you to share the good news?
- What skills can our family use to share good news about Jesus?

Family Fun

Plan a simple backyard camp out with another family. Set up tents in a backyard, and have each family member share a unique skill such as a campfire song, homemade hot chocolate, a silly story, or facts about the stars. Have each person share the name of someone he or she could tell about Jesus. Close your evening with a time of prayer, asking God to show you ways to reach others with the good news of Jesus.

Priscilla and Aquila Help Paul (Acts 18:1-4, 18-28)

