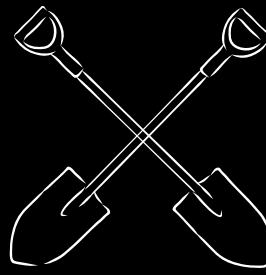


DIGGING DEEPER



SUNDAY STUDY RESOURCE



“Bring It!”
ACTS 18:1-17 NKJV

SYNOPSIS

Being obedient to God’s call does not mean the road will be easy, but since God is for us, we can confidently face whatever comes against us. Continuing in the second half of our verse by verse study through the book of Acts called “Full Send,” Pastor Tim teaches a message from Acts Chapter 18 entitled “Bring It!” that includes 6 takeaways from God’s Word that we can apply in our lives.

When it comes to faithfully walking in our calling,

Bring the...

- 1) Work
- 2) Opposition
- 3) Rejection
- 4) Fear mongering
- 5) Long haul
- 6) Accusations

We hope this message encourages you to boldly obey the call God has placed on your life, remain faithful through whatever opposition comes your way, and confidently move forward knowing that if God is for us, who can be against us!

KEY VERSE:

“These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.”

ACTS 17:6 (NKJV)



DIGGING DEEPER

Text: Acts 18:1-4

Cross-References: Colossians 3:23-24; 1 Corinthians 9:6-14; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Galatians 6:9

Discuss: What does Acts 18:1-4 reveal about Paul's willingness to work faithfully while carrying out his ministry? How does Paul's tentmaking demonstrate that ordinary work can be used alongside ministry for God's purposes? According to 1 Corinthians 9:6-14, what rights did Paul have regarding financial support, and why might he have voluntarily surrendered those rights?

Text: Acts 18:4-8

Cross-References: Ezekiel 3:17-21; Ezekiel 33:1-9; Matthew 10:14; 1 Corinthians 3:6-7; 2 Corinthians 4:1-2

Discuss: How did Paul respond when some of the Jews opposed and rejected his message? What does Paul's statement that he was "clean" teach us about the difference between being responsible for faithfully proclaiming God's truth and being responsible for another person's response? How does Ezekiel 3:17-21 and Ezekiel 33:1-9 help explain this responsibility?

Text: Acts 18:9-11

Cross-References: Galatians 6:9; Hebrews 10:35-36; James 1:2-4; Hebrews 12:1-3; Romans 5:3-5

Discuss: Why is it significant that Paul remained in Corinth for a year and six months, especially after experiencing opposition? What does his willingness to remain teach us about perseverance in God's calling? According to Galatians 6:9, what temptation can arise when we have been doing good for a long time, and what encouragement does Scripture give?

FAMILY DISCUSSION *(Questions for your middle-school or high-school children)*

Text: Acts 18:12-17

Cross-References: Romans 8:31-39; Matthew 5:10-12; 1 Peter 2:19-23; Psalm 37:5-6; Isaiah 54:17

Discuss: According to Romans 8:31-39, what does it actually mean that "God is for us"? Does this promise mean that Christians will never experience suffering, injustice, or opposition? How does 1 Peter 2:19-23 describe the proper response when a believer suffers unjustly? What does Jesus teach in Matthew 5:10-12 about being falsely accused because of righteousness?

REFLECTIONS

- 1) When I experience fear, do I allow it to determine my actions, or do I allow God's presence and promises to determine how I respond?
- 2) When life becomes difficult, is my first response to ask, "How can I get out of this?" or "How can I remain faithful to God in this?"
- 3) If someone examined my life based solely on my actions, would they see someone who trusts God's promises when circumstances are difficult, or someone whose confidence depends on circumstances going well?

