

## **Bible Summary- Acts 18:9**

### Fear

Paul is on his second missionary journey when he lands in the city of Corinth. God appears to him in a vision and tells Paul, a giant of the faith, to not be afraid. Even greats of the faith were paralyzed by fear. The Father helps Paul by first encouraging him to keep up the good work. Then God names the problem. Paul was afraid of being beaten up again. Thirdly, God reminds Paul of his mission. There are many people who need to hear the good news of Jesus and be set free from sin and Satan. Lastly, God tells Paul that He is with him. Paul's response is a renewed strength to speak for 18 months in the city of Corinth.

Scriptures: Acts 18:9-10; Philippians 1:21-22; 2 Corinthians 4:17; Philippians 4:12; Matthew 3:17; Colossians 3:1-3; Matthew 6:25-33; revelation 21:8; 2 Tim 1:7

## **Bible Questions & Application**

(These are meant to aid in facilitating conversation.  
There is no obligation to run through **every** listed question.)

1. How did Sunday's teaching challenge your thinking?
2. Matt recommended a 4 to 1 ratio of encouragement to correction, and also pointed out that encouragement often works best from the top down.
  - a. What would you say your current ratio is?
  - b. Who in your life do you need to encourage more?
3. God names Paul's fear.. What are some of your deepest fears? How do they have power over you? How does God's Word address those fears?
4. Does it surprise you that cowardly (Revelation 21:8) makes the list of those who won't spend eternity with God?
5. What happens when you value the things you love more than God's promises? How would your daily life change if you started valuing God's promises most?
6. Paul felt isolated and his fears were increased during that time. Describe a time where you felt isolated. Why does isolation lead to greater fears?
7. It's not wrong to fear; it's what you do next that matters. What are a couple of practical things you can do this week to combat your fears? As a group take some time to identify verses of encouragement for each named fear?