



the book of
ACTS
DEVOTIONAL

Read Acts 18

Devotional

Paul left Corinth, setting sail for Ephesus with these final words, "I will come back if it is God's will" (Acts 18:21).

That phrase—"if it is God's will"—punctures our hedge of comfort. Paul was sailing toward more persecution and suffering. Soon he willingly journeyed to Jerusalem knowing he would likely be arrested and put to death. Why? Because it was God's will, spoken to Paul, and there was no other decision but joyful obedience. How often do we make plans and purchases assuming that God is with us?

Do we really want to know God's will for our lives? What if it means discomfort or worse? What if God wants us to leave our city, province or even country? It is easy to make decisions based on personal comfort instead of purpose. You are created on purpose for a purpose. God has a plan for you. Are you ready to obey no matter the cost?

- 1) What does this passage teach us about God? How does it apply to you?
- 2) What next step is Jesus asking you to take today? Is there a big decision you have been praying over recently? Are you ready to obey?
- 3) Hardships never seem to slow Paul down. Do you think Paul's attitude is a result of positive thinking or something more? What helps us to move forward even when we're discouraged?

Based on today's reading, what is one thing God is saying to you?