

Come to Our House!

Acts 18; *The Acts of the Apostles*, pp. 243–254, 269, 270

Think about the last time you had visitors in your home. What did you do to get ready? to make them more comfortable?

The Bible has many stories about people who invited guests to their home. Meet Priscilla and Aquila.

Paul, a servant of God, wanted to tell the world about Jesus. So he took a very long trip—known today as “Paul’s Second Missionary Journey.” He had just arrived in the city of Corinth to share Jesus with the people there. A lot of people lived and worked in Corinth, an important city. Paul wasn’t sure where he would stay, or what he would do. Then he met Priscilla and Aquila.

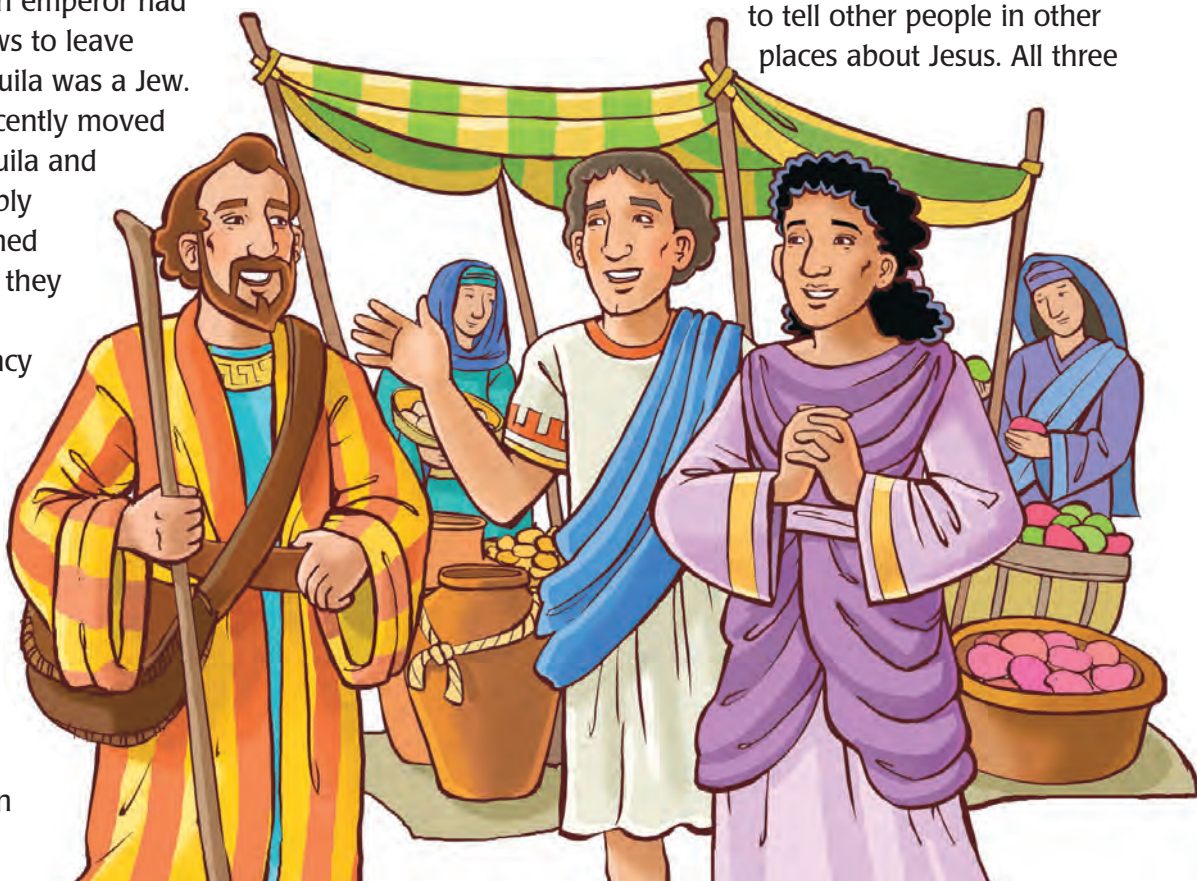
The Roman emperor had ordered all Jews to leave Rome, and Aquila was a Jew. Having just recently moved to Corinth, Aquila and Priscilla probably were not finished settling in. But they did not worry about how fancy their home was. They invited Paul to visit them anyway. And they soon found out that they had more in common than being Jewish in Corinth. They

were tentmakers, and so was Paul.

Priscilla and Aquila were very hospitable. That means that they liked to invite people home. They liked to make others feel comfortable, and visit with them. But they didn’t just invite Paul to Sabbath dinner; they invited him to live with them! Paul helped them make tents. And he helped them learn more about Jesus. Paul lived and worked with Aquila and Priscilla for about a year and a half.

Priscilla and Aquila learned much about Jesus from Paul. They also kept busy sharing the good news about Jesus, just as Paul had shared with them.

Then one day it was time to move again, to tell other people in other places about Jesus. All three



The Message

I serve God when I invite others into my home.

Memory Verse

"Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality"

(Romans 12:13, NIV).

of them sailed to Ephesus. Paul continued his travels, but Priscilla and Aquila set up their new home in Ephesus.

And wouldn't you know it, they found someone else to invite to their home. Apollos, another Jew, had moved to Ephesus about the same time. An educated man, he knew the Scriptures well. He had learned a little bit about Jesus and was sharing what he knew with everyone he met. He even preached

about Jesus in the Jewish synagogue! Priscilla and Aquila heard him. And just as with Paul in Corinth, they invited him home with them. They fed him, made him comfortable, and talked with him about Jesus.

Priscilla and Aquila shared Jesus with everyone they met. They made and sold tents so they could buy food and other things they needed. They were good business people. But most of all, Priscilla and Aquila are remembered for their hospitality. They served Jesus and those around them by inviting people to their home. They showed others God's love in a very real, everyday way.



S A B B A T H

DO With your family, look for creatures that “invite” other creatures to their homes.

DO Look for a spider web (without the spider). Sprinkle powder on the web. Carefully lift the web with black paper until the web breaks free and sticks to the paper. Spray with pump hairspray (optional). Or glue white thread or string onto black paper in a web design.

READ Find a quiet place and read your lesson story together; then read and discuss Romans 12:13.

S U N D A Y

READ During family worship read and discuss Acts 18:1-8.

DO Look at the spider web art you captured yesterday. Why do you think spiders “invite” other creatures to their home? Why does your family invite people home? How can you be like Priscilla and Aquila?

DO Paul, Aquila, and Priscilla were _____ (verse 3). Open your tent from Sabbath School and read the memory verse.

M O N D A Y

READ Read and discuss Acts 18:9-17 with your family. Why was it good that Paul stayed in a loving home while in Corinth? How long did he stay there? _____ How many months is that? _____

DO Talk to your parents about whom you might invite to your house and what you can do to make them comfortable.

DO Look in your memory verse tent; then say the verse from memory.

T U E S D A Y

READ With your family read and discuss Acts 18:18-21.

DO Make a diagram of the rooms in your house. Draw where the furniture is placed. Write the names of each room. Where do your guests stay? Write “For Guests” on that space.

DO How do you think Aquila’s and Priscilla’s home was different from yours? Learn something about people who live in tents today.

W E D N E S D A Y

READ For family worship read and discuss Acts 18:22, 23.

DO Ask a family member to show you a map of “Paul’s Second Missionary Journey” (in the back pages of a Bible). Find Corinth, Ephesus, and Antioch.

SHARE Say the memory verse without help.

DO Ask if you may make a sandwich for lunch. Cut it in quarters diagonally to make triangles. Stand them close together on their base, and you have a made a sandwich tent.



Jewish rabbis always learned how to do something besides teaching to earn money. Paul learned tentmaking.

T H U R S D A Y

READ Read and discuss Acts 18:24-28 during family worship. Say your memory verse together.

DO Ask a family member to help you find and read about the word *hospitality* in a dictionary. What does it mean? How did Aquila and Priscilla show hospitality?

DO Talk about how to make your home a happy place for guests to visit. Then sing "Love at Home" (Sing for Joy, No. 137) before prayer.

F R I D A Y

READ For family worship make a tent with a blanket or sheet draped over furniture. Invite your family to sit in your tent. Read Acts 18:1-4, then continue to tell your Bible lesson in your own words. Say your memory verse together.

SHARE Thank God for your home and family. Pray that your home will be a blessing to others. Share with your family what you think about helping others.



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PUZZLE

Directions: Add the missing vowels to learn about Paul's Second Missionary Journey.



_n C_r_nth, _q_l_ _nd

Pr_sc_ll_ sh_r_d th__r h__s_ w_th

P__l. H_ m_d_ t_nts _nd sh_r_d

th_ g__d n_ws _b__t J_s_s.