

# GOD'S PLAN

## ACTS 18:1-11

*How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)*

BACKGROUND: In God's plan all workers are vital. "Part time" workers are Christians who have "secular" jobs and participate in God's work.

**INCLUDES PART TIME WORKERS.** "I would go so far as to say the best Christian works I know seem to lack funds....This first missionary and prince of apostles, this man of faith had to work at tent making to feed himself and carry on the ministry." James Montgomery Boice, *Acts*, p.306. (**Acts 18:1-4, fn 18:2, 3, Acts 20:34, 35, fn 20:34, I Thessalonians 2:6-9, fn 2:9, Colossians 3:17, 23, fn 3:17, fn 3:23**) *Why do you think God had Paul work part time?*

**HAS FULL TIME WORKERS.** The contribution of the Macedonian churches brought by Silas and Timothy enabled Paul to preach exclusively without making tents. (**Acts 18:5, I Timothy 5:17, 18, fn 5:17, 18, I Corinthians 9:4-14, fn 9:4-10, II Corinthians 8:7-15, fn 8:7, 8, II Corinthians 9:6-14, fn 9:12-15, II Corinthians 11:7-9, fn 11:7-12**) *How could full time Christian workers help "tent makers" have success in their ministries?*

**SUPPLIES LASTING ENCOURAGEMENT.** The situation for Paul, and possibly for you, was difficult. God's vision for both Paul and you is similar. Just as God's heart longed for the lost Corinthians to come to know Him, He has people that He longs for today, and He wants you to share the good news of salvation with them. You are an important part of God's plan. Don't quit! Don't give up! (**Acts 18:1-11, John 15:1-27, fn 15:26[1<sup>st</sup>], Matthew 5:14-16, fn 5:14-16, II Timothy 4:1, 2, fn 4:1, 2**) *What are you to do and what are Gods promises for you in Acts 18:9,10?*

*Pray for one another's needs.*

*Who in your group needs your encouragement by phone or personal attention?*