

Marriage by the Book
#3 Build with the Right Concentration
Acts 18:1-4; 23-28 (2/15/09 AM)

1. The Challenges They Faced (2)

Every Marriage Will Be Faced With Challenges

Aquila and Priscilla were living in Rome.

• **The challenge of _____**

They were Jewish Christians looked down on by the Gentiles because they were Jews. They were ostracized from the Jewish community because they were Christians, James 1:2-4.

Every Couple Will Get _____ In Life

• **The challenge of _____**

They came to Corinth about six months before Paul. Luke gives us the reason for their move, “because Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome”.

Good Marriages That Survive Hard Times Have _____

2. The Commitments They Kept (2-3, 18-19, 23-28)

Their Commitments Enabled Them to Overcome Their Challenges

• **Their commitment to _____**

Proverbs 24:10, “If you faint in the day of adversity your strength is small.” Trials are a test of our faith.

Their _____ to Trust God Sustained Them

• **Their commitment to _____**

Their names are found six times in the scripture and always together. Priscilla’s name appears first in four of those references. Some scholars think she may have been from a noble family. Song of Solomon 5:16, “His mouth is most sweet, yes, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend.”

Peter calls it “being heirs together of the grace of life”.

Couples That Thrive In Difficult Times Maintain Their _____ with One Another

• **Their commitment to _____**

They opened their home to Paul and assisted him in his ministry. Paul then takes Priscilla and Aquila with him to Ephesus to lay the groundwork for the Ephesian Church. Paul on his Third Missionary Journey 1½ years later returns to Ephesus and writes 1 Corinthians. At the end of his letter Paul sends this greeting. 1 Corinthians 16:19, “The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you **heartily** in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.”

Notice they are not just surviving they are thriving!

They Did Not Allow Their Circumstances to Hinder Their Ministry but Used Them as an _____ for Ministry

- **Their commitment to _____**

God providentially brought Apollos into their lives (24-28). He was an eloquent but imperfectly informed believer in Jesus. They heard him speak publicly and took him aside to instruct him privately. Apollos became a mighty missionary among the Jews (27-28).

**Their Personal Impact upon One Life Caused a Continued _____
Impact upon Many Lives**

3. The Commendations They Received

Faithful Service Is Their Life Pattern

Aquila and Priscilla return to their homeland, Romans 16:3-5.

- _____ **partners in ministry**

They had partnered with Paul in serving the Lord. .

**Strong Christian Marriages Are a Key _____ Aspect of the
Local Church**

- _____ **believers in testimony**

“Who risked their own necks for my life”

Paul had been attacked by a mob at Corinth and there had been a mob scene at Ephesus as well. Tradition says that both Aquila and Priscilla were beheaded for their faith in Christ.

Their Marriage Left a _____ of Faithful Service

The last time we hear of them in scripture is Paul’s greeting in 2 Timothy 4:19. They had again left Rome possibly because of the persecution by Nero. They had gone back to Ephesus most likely to help young Timothy. It is significant that Paul mentions them at the end of his life.

What will be the legacy of my marriage? Of my life?

- **Their commitment to _____**

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