

# Weekly Study Guide

The week of August 11, 2013

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## Daily Readings

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Monday	Read Luke 10:38-42. What do you think Mary was risking in going to sit at the feet of Jesus? Why do you think Jesus responded the way he did? After Jesus answered Martha, what do you think Martha did in response? What would you do?
Tuesday	Read Acts 18:1-6. Aquila and Priscilla were Jewish Christians who had come from Italy. We know that they had been Jews who had been forced out of Rome, although we are not told why. We do not know, however at what point they became Christians. We don't know if Paul convinced them of the truth of Jesus, or if they had already heard, but we know they worked as tentmakers side by side. Pray today for the people that you see everyday, who do life side by side with you, that they will know Jesus too.
Wednesday	Read Acts 18:18-21. When Paul left Corinth, he took Aquila and Priscilla with him to Ephesus. There they set up a home, and became part of the Christian movement in that city. Perhaps their diverse citizenship as Italians and Jews, male and female opened doors for the Gospel to be shared in many different kinds of contexts. How do our differences help the Gospel of Jesus spread into the world today? Are there people in your life who might talk to you about faith who would never talk to a pastor? What does this couple's story tell us about how the Gospel spreads?
Thursday	Read Acts 18:24-28. Aquila and Priscilla saw a lot of powerful potential in a young preacher named Apollos. Because they wanted to see him grow in the truth of Jesus so he could teach it accurately, they invited him into their home, where apparently both Aquila and Priscilla participated in teaching the finer points of the faith to him. This was a huge cultural step, for a woman to take part of instructing a grown man (and a knowledgeable one at that). This story shows us how the authority of the Gospel trumps the authority of the culture. What matters is what is going to help people know God truly in Jesus Christ. All things serve that goal. How do you see this at work today?
Friday	Read Galatians 3:27-28. This was a very counter-cultural statement when it was made. It claimed that the status of child of God was a status that men and women shared in equal measure. What is most important is not who we are, but who Christ is, and what he has done. Our lives, then, in Christ, simply become different outposts of his love for the world. What defines us is not our nationality, our relationship to earthly power structures or our gender. What defines us is Jesus. No other status is to define us to a greater degree than that status of "disciple of Jesus". What does it look like to live into that common status?
Saturday	Read John 20:17-18. Mary Magdalene was the very first apostle- She is sometimes called the apostle to the apostles! She was the first person commissioned by Jesus to carry the good news of his resurrection to others. How might Jesus want to use our lives to do the same today? Pray for those who do not yet know the hope that comes from resurrection- who don't yet know what is most important.



[www.flcwb.org](http://www.flcwb.org) • [info@flcwb.org](mailto:info@flcwb.org)

4000 Linden Street • White Bear Lake, MN 55110 • 651.429.5349