

C O m p a s s

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
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ACTS 18: 24-28 NRSVUE

²⁴ Now there came to Ephesus a Jew named Apollos from Alexandria. He was an eloquent man, well-versed in the scriptures. ²⁵ He had been instructed in the Way of the Lord, and he spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, though he knew only the baptism of John. ²⁶ He began to speak boldly in the synagogue, but when Priscilla and Aquila heard him they took him aside and explained the Way of God to him more accurately. ²⁷ And when he wished to cross over to Achaia, the brothers and sisters encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him. On his arrival he greatly helped those who through grace had become believers, ²⁸ for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, showing by the scriptures that the Messiah is Jesus.

WHEN GOD SPEAKS THROUGH OTHERS, ARE WE WILLING TO LISTEN?

Think back on your younger days. Who were those people who spoke affirmations into you? Who told you that you were special? And held you accountable to those standards? In addition to your parents and other family members, who were those people who also seemed to find you when you needed to hear from someone who believed in you? Were they an educator, a neighbor, the mother of your friend, that special “Sister” from church who you've known your whole life?

The reality is, we all need someone willing to pull us aside and speak truth into us. This goes for when we are struggling as well as when we are trying our best to do the right things in life.

In Acts 18: 24-28, Paul introduces us to Apollos. He has come to Ephesus, and he is on fire for God. We learn that he is bold in his witness, but his understanding was incomplete. Fortunately for him, God placed Priscilla and Aquila in his path as wise mentors who privately pulled him aside and offered instruction. Through their encouragement and correction, we learn that Apollos went deeper in his ministry.

This is like a 3-part play. One person who needs help and is to receive it, others who step up without the need to be seen, and a third party who witnesses this all take place. In His wisdom, God purposely positions the believer to be nurtured by and to be a blessing to others.

AT THIS MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE, WHICH PERSON ARE YOU?

It is amazing to look back on our lives and think about all of the people God has placed in our path. In verse 26, we learn that when Priscilla and Aquila heard Apollos, they took him aside. Be mindful that God often chooses people to encourage others and speak into their lives.



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR

JUN 7, 2026

SUNDAY SCHOOL TITLE

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRIPTURE

Judges 4:4–10,
14, 21–22

MAIN THOUGHT

At that time Deborah, a prophet, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. Judges 4:4–5, NRSVue

CLOSING PRAYER

Father God, we thank You for all those who played and play a part in our spiritual formation. In Jesus' name, Amen.