

# HOME GROUP

## Leader Guide



**TOO BUSY NOT TO...**

**BEHIND THE SCENES**

**FEBRUARY 22, 2015**



## **SHARE THE VISION (<10 minutes)**

As you start your group time, please be sure to discuss the following important topics listed below. This is key to keeping OneLifers informed.

### **NIGHT OF WORSHIP – FEB 25**

OneLife comes together in one combined Night of Worship on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Powell Campus to celebrate all that the Holy Spirit has done in the hearts of our people during the Too Busy Not To... sermon series. Spread the word, we want a packed house for this Night of Worship!

### **TOO BUSY NOT TO – RESOURCES**

Want to go deeper with this sermon series? Check out some of the devotions and journal guides, as well as links to the 60/60 Experiment smart phone app on our website. Go to [www.onelifeknox.com/series](http://www.onelifeknox.com/series).

### **SHARE YOUR STORY WITH US**

Throughout this series we've seen the Holy Spirit move in an incredible way in the lives of so many people at OneLife. If you have a story about how the Holy Spirit is changing you, we'd love for you to share it! Visit [onelifeknox.com/story](http://onelifeknox.com/story) and tell us all about it.

### **TEST DRIVE**

Ready to become a OneLife Volunteer? Sign up for Test Drive, a volunteer interest meeting, on March 1st. For more information and to sign up, email your campus' connection director or fill out the form at [www.onelifeknox.com/volunteer](http://www.onelifeknox.com/volunteer)

*Already a volunteer?* Help others get involved on a volunteer team by shoulder tapping those around you and inviting them to join you as you volunteer. All you need to do is invite them to Test Drive in March.

## **KEY SCRIPTURES FOR THE WEEK:**

### **Acts 18:1-3 (NLT)**

<sup>1</sup>Then Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. <sup>2</sup>There he became acquainted with a Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently arrived from Italy with his wife, Priscilla. They had left Italy when Claudius Caesar deported all Jews from Rome. <sup>3</sup>Paul lived and worked with them, for they were tentmakers just as he was

### **Acts 18:18 (NLT)**

<sup>18</sup>Paul stayed in Corinth for some time after that, then said good-bye to the brothers and sisters and went to nearby Cenchrea. There he shaved his head according to Jewish custom, marking the end of a vow. Then he set sail for Syria, taking Priscilla and Aquila with him.

### **Acts 18:24-26 (NLT)**

<sup>24</sup>Meanwhile, a Jew named Apollos, an eloquent speaker who knew the Scriptures well, had arrived in Ephesus from Alexandria in Egypt. <sup>25</sup>He had been taught the way of the Lord, and he taught others about Jesus with an enthusiastic spirit and with accuracy. However, he knew only about John's baptism. <sup>26</sup>When Priscilla and Aquila heard him preaching boldly in the synagogue, they took him aside and explained the way of God even more accurately.

### **1 Corinthians 16:19**

<sup>19</sup>The churches here in the province of Asia send greetings in the Lord, as do Aquila and Priscilla and all the others who gather in their home for church meetings.

### **Romans 16:3-5**

<sup>3</sup>Give my greetings to Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in the ministry of Christ Jesus. <sup>4</sup>In fact, they once risked their lives for me. I am thankful to them, and so are all the Gentile churches. <sup>5</sup>Also give my greetings to the church that meets in their home.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM HANDOUT (35 Minutes)

1. **Have you ever gotten to go “behind the scenes” of an event of some kind? Maybe it was backstage at a concert, in the locker room of a sporting event, or the production studio of a TV station? What was your biggest surprise or memory from that?**

Sometimes the “behind the scenes” is just as impressive as (if not more than) the “on stage” production. Remember what the discussion was here, because it could help you relate this point later in the discussion.

2. **Read Acts 18:1-3. How were Priscilla and Aquila reached by Paul in a “behind the scenes” kind of way? What did Paul have in common with them? Who are people you can think of that could be your Priscilla or Aquila?**

Paul reached these two “behind the scenes” at work. Imagine that they met in the marketplace or the workplace, acquainted because of their jobs, and the conversation begins. Priscilla and Aquila didn’t meet Paul at a public speaking event or book signing, they met him right where they live, work, and play!

Let the group think about this for a moment and begin to brainstorm who around us could be like our Priscilla and Aquila. If we aren’t reaching the people around us at our houses, workplaces, ball fields, grocery store run-ins and coffee houses, what adjustments could we make to be more like Paul?

3. **Priscilla and Aquila then became “behind the scenes” people. Read Acts 18:24-26. Whose life did they make a major impact on in a behind the scenes way? Now read Acts 18:27-28. How did their investment in Apollos pay off in the end? They were able to do this without a microphone or a stage! If you follow this example how can you can you also make a difference in those around you?**

Spend some time stating the obvious from the passage. Who are the people? How do they relate? Who reached who, and how? Then, dig a little deeper by pointing out a few interesting things found in this passage.

- Apollos was someone who knew the Bible very well, but still needed to be reached, why?
- Who do you know that has grown up in church, knows the Bible well (maybe better than you), but still doesn’t have a story that includes surrendering their life to Jesus? How could they be reached? What wisdom would you take from this passage to reach them?

- 4. Read Acts 8:26-40. This is another story of someone (Phillip) following the Holy Spirit to make a difference in a behind the scenes kind of way. In verse 29, what was the most important thing Phillip did? In verse 30 how did Phillip respond in a way that might be different than religion has taught us?**

The most important thing that Phillip does is *listen to the Holy Spirit* and do what He says. Then the Holy Spirit leads Phillip to respond to the Ethiopian Eunuch by *asking him a question* instead of trying to give the Eunuch all the right answers.

Religion has taught us that we need to know all the right answers and make sure everyone else does too. Try to ask of these follow up questions to generate conversation in this direction:

- How does Phillip asking a question force him to rely on the Holy Spirit, versus if he had just begun teaching the Eunuch all the right answers?

(answer: the Eunuch would probably have some far out answers or he might have said "I don't know." But, Phillip was willing to trust the Holy Spirit to show the Eunuch the truth about Jesus, even if he had all the wrong answers at first.)

- How is Phillip's question more effective than a sermonette or giving the Eunuch all the right answers about what he was reading?

(answer: it revealed that the Eunuch was open and interested in what Phillip had to say, versus Phillip just assuming that the Eunuch would be receptive.)

- Check out this verse from John 16:13: "But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come"

- 5. The result of Phillip allowing the Holy Spirit to lead him was a changed life in the Ethiopian. What are two things you can apply to your life where you live, work, and play from both the story of Aquila and Priscilla, and the story of Phillip? Who are the people all around you that wouldn't take any extra time for you to reach them in a behind the scenes kind of way?**

**END YOUR TIME PRAYING TOGETHER (10 Minutes)**