



Priscilla and Aquila

“Loyal Followers”

“The churches in the province of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Priscilla greet you warmly in the Lord, and so does the church that meets at their house.”

I Corinthians 16:19

Aquila and Priscilla, husband and wife, were tentmakers like Paul. They like many other Greeks had been forced out of Rome because they were discussing Christ whom they had decided to follow. We first meet them in Ephesus when Paul was proclaiming the good news about Jesus Christ. They worked with him for one and one half years at least. We are told that when Paul was in Corinth, he lived with Aquila and Priscilla and helped them make tents. Their home was a church for Paul to bring others to learn about the love of Christ.

Paul was so taken by their faith and devotion to the Lord, that he asked the couple to accompany him on some of his mission trips of evangelism. Paul would preach a strong, forceful message about Jesus and His mission as the Son of God. However, Priscilla and Aquila were not just along to make tents to provide an income for these evangelic missions. They would invite people from the gathering where Paul had preached to their home. Priscilla and Aquila would quietly and effectively explain to their guests the message of Jesus upon which Paul had preached that day. Their manner of witnessing was very affective and many souls were won for the Lord due to their efforts. The three of them made quite an evangelistic team.

Priscilla and Aquila won many personal converts to Christ when they were not with Paul. One such convert was a man named Apollos, a former disciple of John the Baptist. After John died, Apollos began to preach what he knew the Gospel of Jesus to be. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him preach, they realized that Apollos did not know the full gospel. Where Paul may have been abrasive in pointing out the errors of Apollos, the Christian couple quietly informed Apollos of the total Gospel of Jesus. They mentored him. Their loving manner and approach won Apollos over to preaching the gospel without any one degrading him for his shortcomings of his knowledge of Jesus.

Priscilla and Aquila were noncommissioned lay people, who like Paul, Peter, and the others, won souls for Christ. They accepted the great commission as a challenge to which every Christian should adhere. They gave not only of their tithe of money, but a tithe of time and talent as well. We meet them back in Rome where they have established a church in their home and then later they are with Timothy in Ephesus. We know that Paul mentions their help again while he is in Corinth. Everywhere they went they witnessed for Christ. Paul said that they risked their lives for him. Their home was always open to people who wanted to know more about Christ and his works. They were lay people doing their job to help others who wanted to learn about Christ. It didn't matter if it was Paul, Apollos, a Jew, or a Gentile; they were available to help anyone who wanted to study God's word.

Over my years of working in the church, I have been privileged to meet many people that would have been like Priscilla and Aquila. Today, I have fond memories of their help in teaching us how to say a sentence pray, how to speak about our faith, and how to have a good time in Christian love. I think the Bible talks about them in I Cor. 3:2 when Paul writes “I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.” But through their love, we are now able. Their name isn't on any plaque, but they are written on the hearts of many people who they helped along the way. I am sure that Priscilla and Aquila helped many people along their faith journey.

Priscilla and Aquila opened not only their home, but they opened their hearts to tell others about their Lord and Saviour. We are challenged to do that today whether at home or in the workplace. The Lord will be there to guide us just as he did that couple. Our names may not be known to the masses, but they are known to God and that is all that matters in the end.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, You have promised to be with us. Help us to be willing and able to stand up for You and tell others even if we are not ordained. Help us to realize that the best way to teach is to live our lives according to Your will. And, dear Lord, help us to be willing to reach out and touch someone who needs to know Your love. Help us to learn how to love. Amen

1. Do you know God's Word well enough to teach it to others?
2. Are you willing to accept those who need to know more about your Lord and Saviour?
3. Is there an “Apollos” with much zeal who needs you to lead him? What will you do to find him?

4. When will you begin to instruct him?
5. What do you need to witness for Christ?

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