

RCMI L-Path Teaching
November 28, 2021

TITLE: NEVER TOO INTIMIDATED (Aquila and Priscilla) [Hindi natatakot]

TEXT: Acts 18:1-4, 18-28

BIG IDEA: Christian life has many challenges. But as we embrace the life God wants us to have, we will overcome. **Maraming hamon ang buhay Kristiyano. Ngunit habang tinatanggap natin ang buhay na nais ng Diyos na magkaroon tayo, tayo ay magtatagumpay.**

INTRO:

- Who are Aquila and Priscilla? **Sino sila Aquila at Priscilla?**
- Aquila and Priscilla are husband and wife. Their names always appear together as they were mentioned in the Bible (6 times). **Mag-asawa sina Aquila at Priscilla. Palaging magkasama ang kanilang pangalan sa tuwing nababanggit sila sa Biblia (anim na beses).**
 - Acts 18 (our main verses)
 - Romans 16:3-5
 - 1 Corinthians 16:19
 - 2 Timothy 4:19
- They were tentmakers by trade. That's how Apostle Paul met the couple. As a tentmaker himself, he stayed and worked with them. **Sila ay gumagawa ng tent sa pamamagitan ng kalakalan. Ganyan nakilala ni Apostol Pablo ang mag-asawa. Slyang bilang isang tagagawa ng tent mismo, nanatili at nagtrabaho siya sa kanila.**
- They remained life-long friends of Apostle Paul. We can see that in the book of 2 Timothy, which is the last book that Paul wrote, he sent greetings to Priscilla and Aquila. From the time they met to that time, it was around 15-16 years apart. **Nanatili silang mga kaibigang panghabambuhay ni Apostol Pablo. Makikita natin na sa aklat ng 2 Timoteo, na siyang huling aklat na isinulat ni Pablo, ay nagpadala siya ng mga pagbati kina Priscilla at Aquila. Mula noong magkakilala sila hanggang sa panahong iyon, mga 15-16 na taon ang pagitan.**

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM AQUILA AND PRISCILLA'S LIFE? ANU-ANO ANG MGA MATUTUTUNAN NATIN MULA SA BUHAY NILA AQUILA AT PRISCILLA?

1. **They embraced the changes that happened in their life. Niyakap at tinanggap nila ang pagbabagong nangyari sa kanilang buhay.**
 - a. 1st change – they were expelled from Rome (it was a negative change). **Unang pagbabago – pinaalis sila sa Roma (isa itong negatibong pagbabago).**
 - i. *v2 There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome.*
 - ii. They had no choice. Sometimes circumstances in life leaves us with no choice to lead us to the path where God wants us to go. **Wala silang ibang pagpipilian. Minsan ang mga pangyayari sa buhay ay nag-iwan sa atin ng walang pagpipilian upang akayin tayo sa landas na nais ng Diyos na ating tahakin.**
 - iii. Instead of complaining, they created opportunities for themselves. They started their tentmaking in Corinth. **Sa halip na magreklamo, lumikha sila**

ng mga pagkakataon para sa kanilang sarili. Sinimulan nila ang kanilang paggawa ng tolda sa Corinto.

- iv. They looked at Change as Opportunity. That's why they embraced it. Tiningnan nila ang pagbabago bilang oportunidad. Kaya naman niyakap nila ito.
- b. 2nd change – they became missionaries like Paul. (it was a positive change). Pangalawang pagbabago – sila ay naging mga misyonaryo katulad ni Pablo (isa itong positibong pagbabago).
 - i. *v18 Paul stayed on in Corinth for some time. Then he left the brothers and sisters and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. Before he sailed, he had his hair cut off at Cenchreae because of a vow he had taken. 19 They arrived at Ephesus, where Paul left Priscilla and Aquila. He himself went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.*
 - ii. From being tentmakers, to being missionaries, in just around 18 months being with Paul. Mula sa paggawa ng tolda, sila ay naging mga misyonaryo, sa loob lamang ng 18 na buwan na pagsama nila kay Pablo.
 - iii. They grew dramatically that enabled Paul to leave them in Ephesus. Lumaki sila nang husto kaya naiwan sila ni Pablo sa Efeso.
- c. Change makes us grow if we embrace it! Let us not avoid it or be intimidated by it. Ang pagbabago ay magpapalago sa atin kung tatanggapin natin ito! Huwag natin itong iwasan o takutin.
- d. God has His ways of putting us through changes to prepare us. That's why it is better to embrace change. Ang Diyos ay may Kanyang mga paraan ng paglalagay sa atin sa mga pagbabago upang maihanda tayo. Kaya naman mas mabuting tanggapin ang pagbabago.

2. They did not hesitate to do the ministry where God called them. Hindi sila nag-atubili na gawin ang ministeryo kung saan sila tinawag ng Diyos.

- a. Paul called them as "Co-Workers in Christ". Tinawag sila ni Pablo bilang "Mga Katrabaho kay Kristo".
 - i. *Rom 16:3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus.*
- b. They opened their home to the ministry. Binuksan nila ang kanilang tahanan para sa ministeryo.
 - i. *Rom 16:5 Greet also the church that meets at their house.*
 - ii. *1 Cor 16:19 - 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.*
- c. During that time, as we know, there are a lot of persecutions. But they did not hesitate to open their house for the ministry. In fact, based on Catholic Church history (Apostolic Constitutions), Aquila was said to be the first bishop in Asia Minor (now Turkey). Sa panahong iyon, tulad ng alam natin, maraming mga pag-uusig. Pero hindi sila nag-atubiling buksan ang kanilang bahay para sa ministeryo. Sa katunayan, batay sa kasaysayan ng Simbahang Katoliko (Apostolic Constitutions), si Aquila ang sinasabing unang obispo sa Asia Minor (Turki ngayon).
- d. Their ministry played an important role in the growth of the early church. Ang kanilang ministeryo ay may mahalagang papel sa paglago ng unang simbahan.
- e. Same with us, we need to play our role, let us not hesitate. Same with us, we need to play our role, wag tayong mag-alinlangan.
- f. No matter how big or small our role, let us do it. Gaano man kalaki o kaliit ang ating tungkulin, gawin natin ito

- g. We do the ministry by sharing what we have and what we know. **Ginagawa natin ang ministryo sa pamamagitan ng pagbabahagi kung ano ang mayroon tayo at kung ano ang alam natin.**
 - i. *v24 Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. 25 He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John. 26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.*
- h. They saw something in Apollos and they helped disciple him. That has helped Apollos to do greater works for God. In fact, he was put into the level of Paul and Peter in some verse in the Bible. **May nakita sila kay Apolos at tinulungan nila siyang maging disipulo. Nakatulong iyon kay Apolos na gumawa ng mas dakilang mga gawa para sa Diyos. Sa katunayan, inilagay siya sa antas nina Paul at Pedro sa ilang talata sa Bibliya.**
 - i. *1 Cor. 1:12 What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."*
- i. Aquila and Priscilla were very much into the ministry. They did not hesitate. **Sina Aquila at Priscila ay lubhang nakatuon sa ministryo. Hindi sila nagdalawang isip.**

3. They were not afraid of the sacrifices that they needed to do. Hindi sila natakot sa mga sakripisyo na kailangan nilang gawin.

- a. *Rom 16:3-5 - 3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus. 4 They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them. 5 Greet also the church that meets at their house.*
- b. Priscilla and Aquila have done something great for Paul to say, "not only I but ALL THE CHURCHES of the Gentiles..." **Malaki ang ginawa nina Priscila at Aquila para sabihin ni Pablo, "hindi lamang ako kundi ang LAHAT NG IGLESIA ng mga Hentil..."**
- c. It did not mention what that great sacrifice is but it has a big impact. **Hindi nito binanggit kung ano ang malaking sakripisyong iyon ngunit ito ay may malaking epekto.**
- d. Let's be honest. Ministry has its challenges, even dangers. But is that enough reason for us to say NO, to hesitate, to back off? Answer is NO. **Maging tapat tayo. Ang ministryo ay may mga hamon, maging ang mga panganib. Ngunit sapat na bang dahilan iyon para sabihin nating HINDI, mag-alinlangan, umatras? Ang sagot ay HINDI.**
- e. This couple were not afraid of the consequences that may happen to them. They just did it. **Ang mag-asawang ito ay hindi natakot sa mga kahihinatnan na maaaring mangyari sa kanila. Ginawa lang nila.**
- f. *Galatians 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*
- g. Great is the reward for those who persevere, who do not give up. Let's not easily give up. **Malaki ang gantimpala para sa mga nakakaunawa, na hindi sumusuko. Huwag tayong madaling sumuko.**
- h. Sacrifices are there to overcome, not to run away. **Ang mga sakripisyo ay nariyan upang pagtagumpayan, hindi upang tumakas.**

- i. If we run away from it, we are missing a lot. (If we get intimidated of the sacrifices, we are missing the rewards) **Kung tatakas tayo dito, marami tayong kulang. (Kung matatakot tayo sa mga sakripisyo, nawawala ang mga gantimpala)**

CONCLUSION:

- Never too intimidated is more than being brave. **It's more about having full confidence in our Lord. It's a matter of faith.** Ang hindi masyadong matakot ay higit pa sa pagiging matapang. **Ito ay higit pa tungkol sa pagkakaroon ng buong pagtitiwala sa ating Panginoon. Ito ay isang bagay ng pananampalataya.**
- Aquilla and Priscilla were not able to accomplish things just because they are not afraid. **They accepted with full of confidence the way of God.** They are fully convinced of the life God wants them to have. **Hindi nagawa nina Aquilla at Priscilla ang mga bagay dahil lamang sa hindi sila natatakot. Tinanggap nila nang buong pagtitiwala ang daan ng Diyos.** Lubos silang kumbinsido sa buhay na nais ng Diyos na magkaroon sila.
- Let us not be intimidated on walking in the ways of God. Yes, sometimes it is not easy. But that is the right way. **Huwag tayong matakot sa paglakad sa mga daan ng Diyos. Oo, minsan hindi madali. Ngunit iyon ang tamang paraan.**
- The easy way is not always the best way. **Most of the time, the toughest roads bring us to the most beautiful destinations.** Ang madaling paraan ay hindi palaging ang pinakamahasay na paraan. **Kadalasan, dinadala tayo ng pinakamahirap na daan sa pinakamagandang destinasyon.**

DISCUSSION:

1. Where in your life could you live more courageously? With full of faith. **Saan sa iyong buhay mabubuhay ka nang mas matapang? Na puno ng pananampalataya.**
2. What spiritual contribution can you make to the lives of others? What else could you do to do the ministry of God? **Anong espirituwal na kontribusyon ang maaari mong gawin sa buhay ng iba? Ano pa ang maaari mong gawin para magawa ang ministeryo ng Diyos?**
3. For couples, just like Aquila and Priscilla, how can you partner more in God's ministry? **Para sa mga mag-asawa, gaya nina Aquila at Priscila, paano ka mas makakasama sa ministeryo ng Diyos?**
4. How far can we go for God? What sacrifices are we willing to take? **Hanggang saan ang ating magagawa para sa Diyos? Anong mga sakripisyo ang handa nating gawin?**