

Pressing On **Acts 18:1-18a**

Main Point:

Even though there are always reasons to give up, press on in the strength of Jesus instead.

1. There are always reasons to give up, but you must press on.

2. Jesus gives you strength to press on from your loving fellowship with other believers.

3. Jesus gives you strength to press on from the instruction of His Word.

4. Jesus gives you strength to press on from His powerful presence with you.

5. Jesus gives you strength to press on from His faithful promises made to you.

Derek Thomas “If Paul had left a city regarded as a cultural capital of the world ..., he was entering the social and political capital of the region, a city proverbial for its immorality.”

Matthew Henry “He was yet more earnest in this matter when his fellow-laborers ... came up with him ... Paul was more than before pressed in spirit, which made him more than ever pressing in his preaching.

1 Thessalonians 3:6 ⁶ But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good remembrance of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also *to see you--* (NKJV)

2 Corinthians 11:8-9 ⁸ I robbed other churches, taking wages *from them* to minister to you. ⁹ And when I was present with you, and in need, I was a burden to no one, for what I lacked the brethren who came from Macedonia supplied. And in everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and so I will keep *myself*. (NKJV)

Matthew 10:14 ¹⁴ "And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet. (NKJV)

Ezekiel 3:18-19 ¹⁸ "When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. ¹⁹ "Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul. (NKJV)

Acts 9:15 ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. (NKJV)

Exodus 3:11-12a ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who *am* I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" ¹² So He said, "I will certainly be with you ... (NKJV)

Joshua 1:5 ⁵ "No man shall *be able* to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. (NKJV)

Matthew 28:20 ²⁰ ... and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen. (NKJV)

1 Thessalonians 4:7-8 ⁷ For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. ⁸ Therefore he who rejects *this* does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit. (NKJV)

John Gill “There were many here who were yet in their sins, in a state of unregeneracy, whom God had chosen to be his people ...”

Dennis Johnson “Jesus proved true to his word: none could hurt Paul because through him Jesus was gathering his many people.”