

Staying



Focus ***ed***



STAYING FOCUSED

Jesus said, “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” (John 10:10-NIV)



We talk about God and yet:

Our lives are as full of fear and worry as those who don't talk of Him.

Our lives struggle with the same hurts, bad habits and hang-ups as those who don't talk of Him.



We talk about God and yet:

Our marriages, families and friendships are as big a mess as those who don't talk of Him.

Our lives have as much chaos and confusion as those who don't talk of Him.



What should we be FOCUSED on?

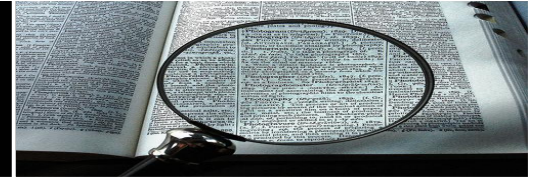
Matthew through John

Acts is a time of spiritual transition



Acts 18:18-23

Paul in transition



Acts 18:18, “Paul stayed on in Corinth for some time. Then he left the brothers and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. Before he sailed, he had his hair cut off at Cenchrea because of a vow he had taken.” (NIV)



**FOCUS ON TOTALLY COMMITTING
TO CHRIST;
THEN YOU WILL KNOW LIFE TO
THE FULL!**



Acts 18:18-28

Apollos in transition



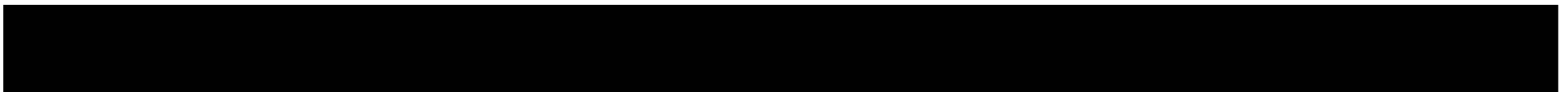
Acts 18:26, “When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.” (NIV)



Hosea 4:6, *“My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as My priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.”*
(NIV)



FOCUS ON FULLY KNOWING THE
WORD;
THEN YOU WILL KNOW LIFE TO
THE FULL!





Acts 19:1, *“While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus.”* (NIV)

Acts 19:2-3, *“There he found some disciples and asked them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?’ They answered, ‘No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.’ So Paul asked, ‘Then what baptism did you receive?’ ‘John's baptism,’ they replied.”* (NIV)



Acts 19:4-7, *“Paul said, ‘John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, . . .’”*
(NIV)



Acts 19:4-7, *“Paul said, ‘John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, . . . that is, in Jesus.’” (NIV)*



Acts 19:4-7, *“Paul said, ‘John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.’ On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve men in all.” (NIV)*

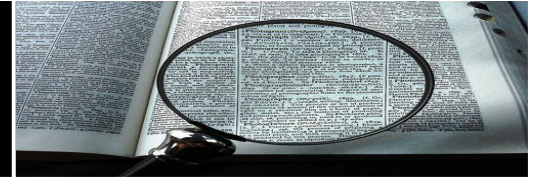


1 Corinthians 14:22, *“Tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; . . .” (NKJV)*



1 Corinthians 14:22, *“Tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe.”* (NKJV)

Acts 19:4, *“He (John the Baptist) told the people to believe in the one coming after him...”* (NIV)



- To fix their marriages.
- To resolve their financial woes.
- To correct their children's poor character.
- To remove their temptations and struggles.
- To defeat their enemies.
- To tell them what to do next.



Acts 1:10-11, *“They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ‘Men of Galilee,’ They said, ‘why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven.’” (NIV)*



What changed everything for these disciples?

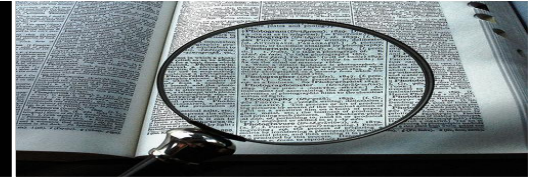
Acts 19:5, *“On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus.” (NIV)*



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TO CHRIST;
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FOCUS ON FULLY KNOWING THE
WORD;
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FOCUS ON BOLDLY TELLING THE
TRUTH:
THEN YOU WILL KNOW LIFE TO
THE FULL!



FOCUS ON FAITHFULLY DOING
THE TRUTH;
THEN YOU WILL KNOW LIFE TO
THE FULL!



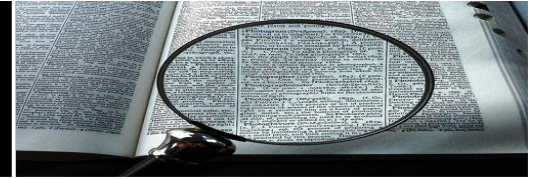
James 4:17, *“Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.” (NLT)*

Jesus said, *“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” (John 10:10-NIV)*



A life free of fear

1 John 4:18, *“There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.” (NIV)*



No worries

Philippians 4:19, “*My God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.*” (NIV)



Victory over our hurts, habits and hang-ups

1 John 5:4-5, *“For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.” (NLT)*



Peace in the midst of turmoil

Isaiah 26:3, *“You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in You, all whose thoughts are fixed on You!” (NLT)*

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