This great missionary, one time persecutor of the church, was introduced briefly in Acts 7:58 and 8: 1-3, in connection with the stoning of the first martyr of the church, Stephen. Saul was born into a Jewish family in Tarsus of Cilicia (Acts 22:3). Saul's family was of the tribe of Benjamin (Phil. 3:5). Saul was named after the most prominent member of the tribe, King Saul. The vocational background of Saul was that of a tentmaker, a trade he would have learned from his father. Apparently the business was a thriving one, and history suggests that Saul's family was of some wealth. Saul was born a Roman citizenship and there have been several suggestions concerning how he obtained that citizenship. One of the most prominent suggestions is that his grandfather was granted Roman citizenship because of some special service he rendered to a Roman proconsul. None the less he was a Roman citizen (16: 35-40). Saul was educated and trained by one of the most prominent Rabbi's, Gamaliel. Prior to his conversion Saul was a great persecutor of Christians. Saul and Paul are one in the same. It was the custom of the day to have dual names (Abram/Abraham; Jacob/Israel). God chose Saul as the missionary to the Gentiles and thus he used his Roman name, Paul.

Paul's Traveling Companions: Silas, Timothy, Priscilla and Aquila, Luke Main Route: Syria, Turkey, Greece, Jerusalem Miles traveled: Approximately 2800

Scripture References: Acts 18: 1-17; Acts 9: 15,16; 1 Corinthians 3: 6,7

| Paul Arrives in Corinth: | Acts 18: 1-4 |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| | |
| Eighteen Months in Corinth: | Vy. 5-11 |
| | ••• •• |
| | |

Small Group Discussion:

- 1) Who are Aquila and Priscilla and what does Paul have in common with them?
- 2) What did Paul do in the synagogues every Sabbath?
- 3) What does Paul shaking his garments represent?
- 4) Why is Paul free from the blood of those who reject Christ? Is any man responsible for those who reject Christ after they have heard the Gospel? (1 Corinthians 3: 6,7)
- 5) What was the response of Crispus, ruler of the synagogue, to the Gospel? Because of a position held by an individual automatically make them a believer? Is it possible that some Pastor, Teachers, Deacons, etc. may not be saved?
- 6) How did God encourage Paul while he was in Corinth?
- 7) Who is Gallio and how does he respond to the accusations the Jews level against Paul?
- 8) Who is Sosthenes and why did the Greeks beat him?
- 9) Was God faithful to the promise He made to Paul in verses 9 and 10?

Next Week: Paul's Third Missionary Journey Acts 18: 18-23