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Welcome to Innovate 2009

Paul in Corinth
The Church Planter and the normal Church Plant

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- Acts 18:1-3
- After these things he departed from Athens, and came to Corinth. And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, a man of Pontus by race, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome: and he came unto them; and because he was of the same trade, he abode with them, and they wrought, for by their trade they were tentmakers.(ASV)

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- Acts 18:4-6
- And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded Jews and Greeks. But when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul was constrained by the word, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. And when they opposed themselves and blasphemed, he shook out his raiment and said unto them, Your blood [be] upon your own heads; I am clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.(ASV)

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- Acts 18:7-9
- And he departed thence, and went into the house of a certain man named Titus Justus, one that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue. And Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized. And the Lord said unto Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak and hold not thy peace:(ASV)



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- Acts 18:10-11
- for I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to harm thee: for I have much people in this city. And he dwelt [there] a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.(ASV)



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Paul the church planter

- **His training**
 - Strong theological training background
 - Radical conversion and call to service
 - Great “practicum” in Antioch under Barnabas
 - Early experience as apostolic missionary with Barnabas
 - Now a seasoned apostolic church planter





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Paul the church planter

- *His evolving apostolic role*
 - Growing emphasis on urban church planting
 - Growing emphasis on team-based ministry
 - Sensed a theological duty to 1st proclaim to Jews

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Paul the church planter

- *His recent history*
 - Philippi: great church plant: imprisoned & run out of town
 - Thessaloniki: great church plant: charged w/ public disorder & run out of town
 - Berea: great church plant & run out of town
 - Athens: uncertain results
 - Corinth: just starting out in apostolic role after seemingly having spent some time working

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The "Normal" Church Plant

- *Initial "learning phase"*
- *Team forming*
- *Launch*
- *Opposition*
- *Reaction/adjustment*
- *First fruits*



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The "Normal" Church Plant

- *Vision/visitation*
- *Recommitment for the long term.*
- *Results*

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The church planter's crisis

- "It's not going well"
- "I'm afraid"
- "I'm just going to shut up and let God work"
- "God's gone away. And maybe I should also"

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Jesus' answer

- Don't be afraid
- Speak and don't be silent
- I AM WITH YOU!! I've got your back
- I've got MANY people in this city (you just can't see them yet)
