



1. Don't give up on work and normal life



2. Don't give up gospel ambitions



3. Don't give up on empowering people who may surpass you



Don't give up

Don't be afraid. God is with you.

It is God that brings things full circle in ways we can't calculate.



God only **explicitly** says one thing in this passage:

Acts 18:9-10

One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city."



UNSINKABLE FAITH

8 weeks in Acts







Tough seas are never comfortable.

But the real question is:
will you sink?

You don't know what is going to happen out there.

3 Problems of Sin:

1. Guilt and shame from damnability
2. Pain — from yourself and others
3. Fragility, brittleness, weakness, and vulnerability.

The last 8 chapters of Acts:

7 steps of faith and discipline that lead to an
unsinkable faith.

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Tough times are never calculable.
But the real question is
will you quit?

Prayers for
[unreadable]

Prayer for [unreadable]
[unreadable]

[unreadable]

[unreadable]

[unreadable]

[unreadable]

The perfect
recipe for
feeling
intimidated.



The Fear:
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Acts 18:1-4
After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. 2 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 the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, 3 and because he sees a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. 4 Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

1. Don't give up on work and normal life

The Fear:
Being exploited and having our lives extracted.

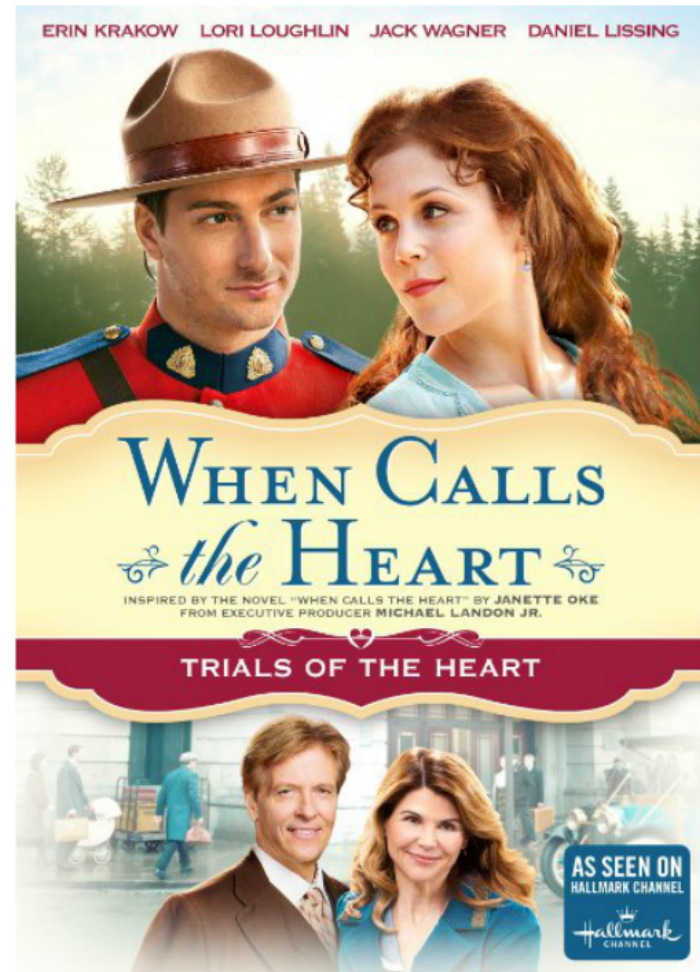
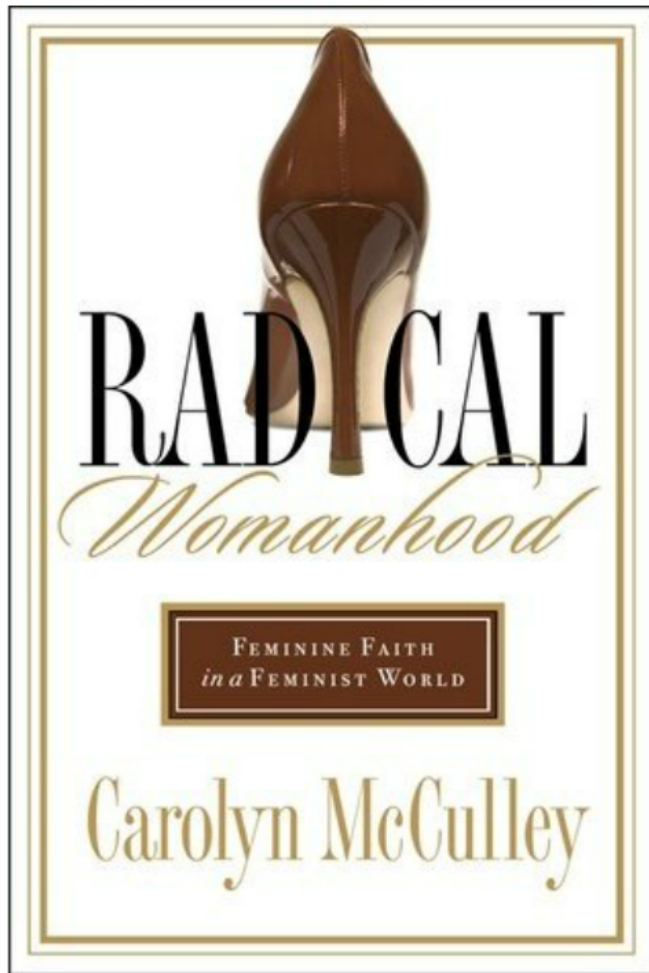


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Acts 18:18-21

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. They arrived at Ephesus, where Paul left Priscilla and Aquila. He himself went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews. When they asked him to spend more time with them, he declined. But as he left, he promised, "I will come back if it is God's will." Then he set sail from Ephesus.



The Fear: 
Great ambitions will endanger our other ambitions.
- Threats to our life and health
- Pleasure and security

Matthew 13:22: "The worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful."

2. Don't give up gospel ambitions

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The Fear:

This is not to be taken too literally
or as a rule of thumb.

2 options:
1. Let the candle melt you
2. Melt your ambitions with Jesus



Gospel ambitions will endanger our other ambitions.

- Threats to our life and wealth
- Pleasure and security

Matthew 13:22 The worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful.

This is true to the extent your ambitions are at odds with those of Jesus.

2 options:

1. Let the conflict sink you
2. Align your ambitions with Jesus



Acts 18:24-26

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**.

The perfect recipe for feeling intimidated.



The Fear:

When you empower people who could surpass you, they very well might replace you.

A good worldly solution



3. Don't give up on empowering people who may surpass you



What are you?



A soldier is as glad to be deposed as elevated, if it is for the right reason of keeping his integrity, or being replaced by someone better.

St. Chrysostom

Mark 9:35

Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all."

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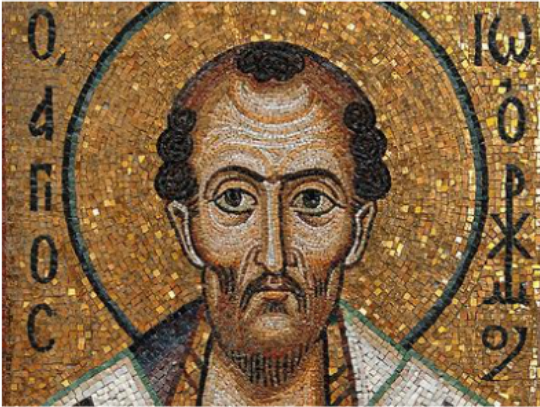
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