



Being Tentmakers

Acts 18:1-4



Being Tentmakers

► 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 Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³ and because he was 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.”



Being Tentmakers

- ▶ John Stott writes in *The Contemporary Christian*:

“The church is insecure;
it is uncertain of its **identity**, **mission** and **message**.”



Secure in our identity

- ▶ Being a child of God

Gal. 4:6-7 – “Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, ‘*Abba, Father.*’⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.”



Secure in our identity



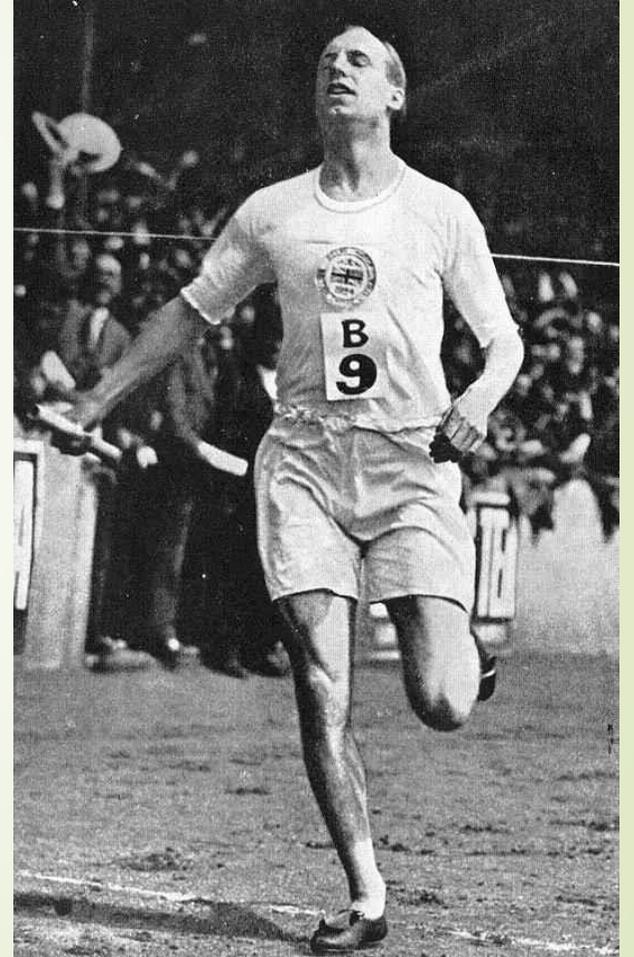
Being a child of God

Rom. 8:14-16: “For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’ ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.”

Identity - The Cycle of Grace

➤ Eric Liddell:

“When I run, I feel God’s pleasure.”



Identity - The Cycle of Grace





Identity – Redefining Success

▶ Luke 10:17-20:

The seventy-two returned with joy and said, 'Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.' ¹⁸ He replied, 'I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. ²⁰ However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.'



Secure in our mission

► Matthew 28: 18-20 – Great Commission:

Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’



Secure in our mission

▶ Luke 24:46-48:

He told them, 'This is what is written: the Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.'



Secure in our mission

▶ John 17: 18-21:

“They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.”



Secure in our mission

➤ Genesis 12:1-3:

The Lord had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

² 'I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.

³ I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you.'



Secure in our mission

► Psalm 96:2-4:

Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.

³ Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvellous deeds among all peoples.

⁴ For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise

► Isa 49:6:

I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'



Secure in our mission

► Cathy Ross:

“All mission is God’s mission, that God is the initiator and sends His Son and His Holy Spirit out of love for the world. This Trinitarian God is love so that this love is an essential part of God’s nature. This love is part of God’s being and it is this being that has the outward impetus to send the Son and the Spirit. So part of God’s nature is his missionary love and this is what the church bears witness to.”

Secure in our mission



Bubba Watson: "I am realizing that golf is just an avenue for Jesus to use me to reach as many people as I can."



Secure in our message

► 2 Cor. 5:18-6:2:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: be reconciled to God.



Secure in our message

➤ Philippians. 2:15:

“Shine like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life.”

➤ John Stott:

“Good works are not the way of salvation, but its proper and necessary evidence. A faith which does not express itself in works is dead.”



Being Tentmakers

► Are you secure in your **identity** as a child of God?
Is this the foundation of your life?

► Are you secure in your **mission**?
Have you found your place in the mission of God?

► Are you secure in your **message**?
Are you rejoicing in the good news of Jesus and seeking to share this with others through words and actions?