

Richmond Hill Baptist Church

July 3, 2011

P & A (Acts 18:2, 18-19, Romans 16:3-5, 1 Corinthians 16:19, 2 Timothy 4:19)

Prelude & Prayer Time

Call to Worship: *O Canada*

Welcome: Welcome, it is good to see you on this Canada Day Long Weekend. A special welcome to Allen Schmidt, our former pastor, and his wife Catherine. Congratulations to your daughter Becky and her husband Larry on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. If you are a guest thanks for joining us today. Please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate when it comes by. Let's take a moment and greet one another.

Sing: *Hallelujah, I Will Follow, With All I Am, His Eye is on the Sparrow*

Children's Corner:

Offering: Missions & Cuban Connection (Mandy)

Offertory: Come Thou Fount

Sermon: **Expats on Mission**

On Friday, Canada celebrated confederation and on Monday the United States will celebrate its independence. Congratulations to both nations and its citizens.

In 2003 when Marisa and I came back to Canada from the US, I heard a term used a lot that I struggled with. The term is "expatriate" or "expat."

To me it seems to have a negative implication that when someone went to work in another country that they were no longer patriotic of their home country.

An **expatriate** (in abbreviated form, **expat**) is a person temporarily or permanently residing in a country and culture other than that of the person's upbringing or legal residence.

The word comes from the Latin term *expatriātus* from ex ("out of") and patriā the ablative case of patria ("country, fatherland"), from Greek Exo (outside) and Patrida (Fatherland, Country).

In its broadest sense, an expatriate is any person living in a different country from where he or she is a citizen. In common usage, the term is often used in the context of professionals sent abroad by their companies, as opposed to locally hired staff.

The term has nothing do to with whether a person is patriotic or not. The spelling is slightly different.

Calgary has lots of expats. Our church has had lots of expats. Our church has been blessed by many expats who have a heart for God and His work. They come and see Calgary and Canada as a great mission field and they get involved.

I got an e-mail from Davy & Hilary McCullough last night. The McCulloughs are from Ireland. They lived in Scotland, Paris, Dubai, and help start a church Tehran. They came back from Paris last year and joined our mission team in Vancouver. When they lived here they served with our Evangelism Team and Welcome Team. They were great.

Our church has been blessed lots of fabulous families like the McCullough's.

In the scripture we find a pair of amazing expats: Priscilla and Aquila! Allow me to introduce you to them.

Acts 18:1-3

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 was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them.

See Map!

Five Attributes that we Can Learn from Aquila & Priscilla

1. Team Players (Acts 18:2, 18:18)

Acts 18:1-3

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 was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them.

Worked alongside with Paul.

Acts 18:18-19

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. ¹⁹ They arrived at Ephesus, where Paul left Priscilla and Aquila. He himself went into the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.

They got involved!

2. Tent Makers (Acts 18:3)

Acts 18:1-3

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 was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them.

The job was a necessary means to do ministry.

Bi-vocational Ministry is tough! Carpenter & Janitor!

3. Play Makers (Acts 18:19)

Acts 18:18-19

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They were not excuse makers!

Coaches are often looking for play makers on their teams.

4. Disciple Makers (Acts 18:26, 1 Corinthians 16:9)

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.

Apollos: I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. (1 Cor 3:6)

Invited: Brad & Monica (Postcard)

Home

1 Corinthians 16:19

The churches in the province of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Priscilla greet you warmly in the Lord, and so does the church that meets at their house.

Home: Dorm to Home

Hospitality: Warm,

Host the CNBC

Home Church: Worship, Ministry, Fellowship, Discipleship, & Evangelism

5. Risk Takers (Romans 16:4)

Romans 16:3-4

Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus. ⁴ They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them.

Riot in Ephesus: Demetrius the silver smith and craftsmen caused an uproar>

Pastors: Care Takers, Under Takers, Risk Takers (Faith Perspective)

Allen Schmidt: it was fun last night hearing the RHBC story again.

Five Attributes that we Can Learn from Aquila & Priscilla

- 1. Team Players (Acts 18:2, 18:18)**
- 2. Tent Makers (Acts 18:3)**
- 3. Play Makers (Acts 18:19) excuse makers**
- 4. Disciple Makers (Acts 18:26, 1 Corinthians 16:19)**
- 5. Risk Takers (Romans 16:4)**

In my experience as a pastor, expats generally fall into two categories: those who are participants and those who are spectators.

They are either team players or they are sitting on the bench disengaged.

They are either more focused on God's Kingdom or their own vocation.

They are either playmakers or they are excuse makers.

They are either disciple makers or they are consumers.

They are either risk takers or essentially care takers.

You might think that I am being a little tough on the expats. You are right! The fact is if you are a Christian you are an expat on this earth. Heaven is your home.

Paul reminds us that our citizenship is in heaven.

Philippians 3:18-20

For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven.

Response:

God help me and my family have a greater focus and involvement in your Kingdom.

God help me use my vocation for your glory.

God help me be a good disciple and me make more disciples for you.

God help me use my home for you.

God help me be a risk taker and step out in faith to follow you.

The Lord's Prayer:

*“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.

¹² Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Sing: Lord Reign In Me

Announcements:

1. Sign Ups for Pancake Breakfast & Sports Camps
2. Volunteers: Breakfast, Camps, Convention.
2. Register online for the CNBC activities: Ranch, Youth, Kids, Training, & Meals.
3. Farewell to Carol Rodine, Retiring, His Eye is on the Sparrow.
4. Welcome to Timothy MacArthur, Summer Intern

Have a great week!

^a Or *from evil*; some late manuscripts *one, / for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

