

MARRIAGE ACCELERATOR SERIES

Becoming a  
**POWER  
COUPLE**  
for God

SCOTT D. FOREMAN

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## **Becoming a Power Couple for God**

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## **Becoming a Power Couple for God**

The Christian marriage is a precious, unique relationship. At the very core, it is God's picture of the gospel; a living, breathing example of Christ giving his life for the church. There is no greater illustration of the gospel than a Christ-centered marriage. Christ-centered marriages can be used powerfully for Him.

But every marriage, even Christian ones, can be easy to coast through. Sure, marriage is an amazing relationship where we do life together, make memories, and build a true family. But God wants your marriage to be so much more than that. He wants to take your marriage and use it as a gospel accelerator for His glory.

In the book of Acts, there was a couple that God used powerfully: Aquila and Priscilla. They did not have a mundane marriage because they were open to allowing God to use their marriage powerfully for His glory. They recognized that they have only one opportunity in this life to

use their marriage to glorify Jesus. And their example serves as a great example for us. They were a true power couple for God.

What steps can you take to have a marriage that matters? To also be a power couple for God. Four marriage characteristics help us get there.

**Together:**  
**A Desire to Do Life Together**

Anytime they're mentioned in the Bible, Aquila and Priscilla are always mentioned together. It is never one without the other. This is not coincidental. It is obvious that Aquila and Priscilla believed God wanted to use them *together* as a married couple. And that's how God wants it to be.

Too many married couples aren't living like a married couple; they're living like two people who live together. There's a big difference between those two realities.

You can be one flesh and still celebrate your differences. Aquila and Priscilla likely realized at some point in their marriage that they were two very different people, and their gender was a significant contributing factor to that.

There's a reason why God made a man a man and a woman a woman:

- They complement each other.
- Both genders have strengths and weaknesses.

- There are things men excel at, and things they are weak in. There are things women excel at, and things they are weak in.

But when together, especially in marriage, when the Holy Spirit is energizing, it makes for a dynamic team.

There's a reason why God said to Adam:

*"It is not good for him to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." (Gen. 2:18)*

If Adam could do it all by himself, he would not have needed Eve. And if Adam just needed another man alongside him to help him mow the lawn, God would have just made another man to help him. But the final piece of God's creation masterpiece, the *crème de la crème*, was a *woman*: Eve.

Together, Adam and Eve could have been a power couple for God's agenda. But instead, in critical moments, they chose to live independently of each other.

*In daily practice, husbands and wives should live in a state of dependence on each other, so that in critical moments a foundation of connectivity already exists.*

This means:

- In our parenting, we ensure we have alignment.
- In cultivating our marriage, we regularly make time for each other.

- In the areas where we're struggling, we are getting help.

As married couples, ask yourselves:

- In your togetherness as a couple, where are you strong, and where are you weak?
- In what ways is your togetherness drawing people closer to Christ, particularly in your own home or family?

For Aquila and Priscilla, their desire for togetherness was not just to have companionship, but far greater than this, it was to accelerate the gospel.

**Adaptability:  
A Willingness to Go/Stay**

When we look at the life of Aquila and Priscilla, we see them over the years going from place to place. Once because they had to, other times because they wanted to.

When Acts 18 opens, we learn that Aquila and Priscilla were being forced from their homes because of racial and likely political opposition. The Roman governor Claudius had mandated that all the Jews had to leave Rome. Secular history sheds some light on the possibility that some Jews were causing political upheaval, and so the government's solution was to expel them.

And so, Aquila and Priscilla were forced to leave their home and relocate. They relocated to Corinth.

What did they do when they got to Corinth? They likely continued practicing the same profession they had in Italy: making tents. It was undoubtedly a difficult situation, but one they could not change. *They pivoted and got right back into business.*

For a year and a half (Acts 18:11), Paul stayed in Corinth, likely pouring into this precious couple. And when it came time for Paul to move on to Ephesus, he brought Aquila and Priscilla with him (Acts 18:18-19).

He was so confident in Aquila and Priscilla's abilities that Paul left them alone in the Ephesian ministry.

Priscilla and Aquila were firm in their beliefs and flexible in their life circumstances. It is a mentality that I am on God's agenda, not mine.

The Bible teaches that God's sovereign agenda is solid, set in stone before time. But from a human perspective, it looks like God is giving us new marching orders every day. We must be ready for those marching orders.

Usually, in a marriage:

- One person is more flexible than the other.
- One who likes change, and one who possibly abhors it.

And that's ok – those are great factors that contribute to togetherness.

What must be avoided is a self-preservationist approach to changing circumstances: *“Oh, I’ll be flexible, as long as everything stays the way I like it!”*

Early in our marriage, mentors of Rachel and me gave us a valuable lesson when it comes to adaptability:

*“Be 100% willing to stay. Be 100% willing to go.”*

This is how Aquila and Priscilla lived:

- When they had to flee Rome, they did so, trusting that God would do what he would do with that situation.
- When Paul asked them to come with him to Rome for a long-term mission trip, they did.

Their primary concern in life was to use their lives and marriage to advance the gospel. Would you be willing to undergo a radical life adjustment if it meant better fulfilling God's will for your life?

- If God asked you to, would you be willing to uproot your life where you live for something else?
- If God asked you to, would you be willing to become a support-raising missionary?

## **Mentorship: A Willingness to Reach Out to Others**

Priscilla and Aquila were all about others. It seems that others, meeting other people's needs and investing in others, were a major part of their lives.

While in Ephesus, because Paul left them there to advance the gospel, they came across Apollos, a preacher who could really preach!

Apollos is preaching in the synagogue, and Priscilla and Aquila are listening. Remember, Priscilla and Aquila had been discipled under Paul for 1.5 years. They were likely well-versed theologically. When they heard Apollos eloquently share only part of the gospel story, they knew they had to do *something*.

So, what did they do? Maybe...

- ...they came to him in the foyer after his message, and they gave it to him good!
- ...during the week, they gossiped with their friends about Apollos and his bad message!
- ...they kept the preaching problem to themselves, stewed on it, and became increasingly bitter!

None of the above. Read at Acts 18:26:

*“When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.”*

It was an issue that needed to be addressed – but they handled it as a family should. With respect. With love.

What was the result of their ministry in Apollos' life? Apollos proudly said, “*Who are these guys to correct me?*” Not even close. He *listened* and became a better minister for Christ (Acts 18:27-28).

The Greek tenses here tell us that they did this “explaining” *together*. It was Aquila giving a theology lesson to Apollos, *and* it was Priscilla giving a theology lesson to Apollos. And, because Priscilla is usually mentioned first, she may have been taking the lead in this and in other ministry matters. And under the New Covenant, a woman has significant ability to serve and minister within the local church.

The point is this: investing in others should be a major component of the Christ-centered marriage. That doesn't mean you're both in full-time ministry, but it does mean you are both doing ministry, and preferably a lot of that together.

In your marriage:

- Are you currently investing in any other couples?
- If not, why not? What is holding you back? Time? Feelings of insecurity or inferiority?
- If you are investing in other people/couples, how can you become more focused on that and make deeper investments?

## **Stewardship:**

### **A Desire to Use Your Resources for God's Glory**

Aquila and Priscilla had the mentality: “*What we have is God's*”. This was evidenced by their using what they had to advance the gospel. Even if it meant risking their lives. Read what Paul said as he was wrapping up the book of Romans:

*“Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus. They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them.” Rom. 16:3*

Another translation says it like this:

*“For my life's sake, Priscilla and Aquila submitted their own throats to the knife.” (Bishop Handley Moule).*

They demonstrated wise stewardship through their gracious hospitality. They welcomed Paul into their home when he first arrived in Corinth. Paul may not have been in a good place when he came to Corinth. He himself said that when he landed in Corinth, he came in weakness, fear, and trembling. And he came alone. (1 Cor. 2:3). Aquila and Priscilla played a crucial role in helping him get his footing in Corinth.

They saw their home and their resources as being critical to furthering the gospel. When Paul sent a letter to the Roman Christians, he sent greetings to the church that met in Aquila and Priscilla's house:

*“Greet also the church that meets at their (Priscilla and Aquila) house.” Romans 16:5*

When writing from Ephesus to the Corinthians, he spoke about Aquila and Priscilla’s church in Ephesus:

*“The churches of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord.” 1 Cor. 16:19*

What they had was to be used to accelerate the gospel. Likely, their home was their greatest resource, and they wanted it to be used, along with everything else they had.

Ask yourselves:

- Do you view everything you have as belonging to God, and are you intentionally making it available for His purposes?
- Are you using your home and resources to serve and strengthen others, especially those who need encouragement?
- Are you willing to sacrifice comfort, convenience, and even personal safety to advance the gospel?

## **Conclusion**

Like Aquila and Priscilla, how do you become a power couple for God?

**Togetherness:** A Desire to Do Life Together.

**Adaptability:** A Willingness to Go/Stay

**Mentorship:** A willingness to reach out to others.

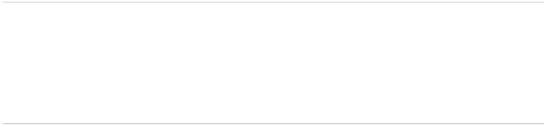
**Stewardship:** A desire to use your resources for God's glory.

If you were to make one change in just one of these areas this week, which would it be?

Now take it a step further. Write down one specific goal for each of these four areas.

- What is one way you will intentionally pursue **togetherness** this week?
- What is one way you will demonstrate **adaptability** to God's direction?
- Who is one person or couple you will intentionally **invest** in?
- What is one **resource** you will intentionally use for God's glory?

Start small but be specific. Becoming a couple that God can greatly use is not built in a moment, but through intentional steps like these.



**Additional Resources by Scott Foreman**  
(more can be found at [www.theministrydad.com](http://www.theministrydad.com))

**The Marital Big Blocks**

God-honoring marriages are built over time on biblical truth. This book serves as a counseling tool, small-group resource, or guide for couples seeking to strengthen and realign their marriage around God’s design.



**The Husband’s Big Blocks**

You have one opportunity to be the husband God calls you to be. God’s Word provides clarity and direction. In four focused chapters, you’ll learn how to live with, understand, honor, and lead your wife.



**Towards Masculine Maturity**

Life is demanding, but God calls men to spiritual maturity. Mediocrity is not inevitable. This book challenges men to pursue a worthy walk and grow into the maturity God intends.



All resources can be purchased on:

