

Q: How do we see people today “use” Jesus for their own selfish gain? (how might some today turn Jesus-worship into “Jesus business?”) How might we even unintentionally, do the same? \_\_\_\_\_

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Q: (vv.17-20) How did God use this to turn people to Jesus, and then abandon their useless strategies (previously used to attempt to selfishly tap into divine power)? How did they demonstrate truly changed lives, turning to Jesus, away from their sins? What things from the past (or present) might we too need to get rid of (things that hinder our worship of & walk w/God)? What will it cost us to do so?

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Q: (vv.21-41) How was Christianity affecting both the economy and religious system in Ephesus? Why does the gospel often conflict with people’s economic interests, success, self-reliance?

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Q: How have your business dealings been affected by your faith? How has following Christ affected you financially and socially?

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Q: What types of businesses does the gospel threaten today? \_\_\_\_\_

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Q: In light of this episode (19:37-40) and in Corinth (18:12-17), why is it important for Christians to carefully obey the civil laws (where they don’t conflict with God’s—Acts 5:29). See Rom 13:1-7; 1 Pet 2:13-17.

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# Harvest Growing Deeper

Evangelical Free Church

*A Disciplemaking Tool of Harvest Evangelical Free Church  
(for personal and/or small group study)*

Week of October 4, 2020

Acts 19

In Acts 18, Aquila and Priscilla explained the full gospel of Christ with Apollos. Here in chapter 19, Paul needs to do the same with God-fearers in Ephesus. They did not yet receive the Holy Spirit whose presence is proof that someone is truly born again (Rom 8:9, 16; 1 John 5:9-13). Paul would again face opposition but also spend two years in Ephesus training the disciples.

Q: What experiences have you had with religious counterfeits? (cults, horoscopes, palm readers, psychics, etc.)

Q: What questions or opposition do Christians face when sharing Christ on a college campus or society filled with other religions?

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Q: (19:1-3) These disciples knew only the baptism of John. What were they lacking?

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Q: (v.4) What was John’s baptism and in what way was it incomplete?

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Q: (v.5-6) Why was it significant for Paul to lay hands on these new believers as the Holy Spirit came upon them? How would that validate Paul's message and their adoption into the family of God?

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Q: What do we learn about the vital connection between receiving the Holy Spirit at the moment we place our faith in Jesus? Why was it necessary then as the early church spread, for an apostle to lay hands on people to receive the Holy Spirit, but not necessary today?

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Q: (v.8) for how long was Paul allowed to speak in the Jewish Synagogue? How was this unique compared to other cities he has previously visited?

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Q: (v.9) Facing opposition again, what did Paul do next?

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Q: (vv.9-10) Paul taught daily in the hall of Tyrannus for 2 years. What was the result of Paul's training, as far as the spread of the gospel?

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Q: Paul's training here is a model not just for seminaries and Bible schools around the world, but also for intentional discipleship of other (especially younger) believers today. Who can you be intentional to reach out and invest in, instructing them what you have learned from God's Word and keep learning together? Start by listening, sharing faith journeys, praying and getting into God's Word together.

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Q: (v.11-12) What was God doing through Paul to help the sick and oppressed? From what we learn about Ephesus in this chapter, why might God have performed these miracles in this particular culture?

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Q: (v.13-14) Wherever God's ministry is at work, Satan will also attempt to counterfeit or thwart it. Describe what happened here. What was lacking in these counterfeits for the power of Christ to truly work?

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Q: (vv.15-16) What happened to these exorcists (Note: they failed to *turn* to Jesus, but rather, tried to *use* Him for their selfish purposes)?

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