

# Paul's Return to Ephesus

## Acts 19

### MAIN IDEAS

1. Paul returns to Ephesus and stays for about three years
2. Miracles at Ephesus
3. The Riot at Ephesus

#### 1. Read Acts 19:1-10

- How many disciples did Paul encounter and from whom did they learn?
- What did they know and what did they NOT know?
- Why were these disciples baptized again?
- The Bible mentions two types of speaking in tongues as enabled by the Holy Spirit: the ability to spontaneously speak another language (Acts 2:4-6) and the Holy Spirit indwelling and empowering believers. Which sort of tongues did the disciples speak in Acts 19:6?
- Why did Paul depart from the Jews in the synagogue?

#### 2. Read Acts 19:11-20

- It was common in this culture for Jews to try to cast out evil spirits. Why did the sons of Sceva (exorcists) fail in their attempt to cast out evil spirits in the name of Jesus?
- In contrast, why did God perform extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul?
- How were those who dwelt in Ephesus impacted by these actions?

#### 3. Read Acts 19: 21-41

- Why did Demetrius the silversmith stir up the crowd?
- How did the city clerk calm the crowd?

## PERSONAL RESPONSE

Think back to when you were baptized. Were you aware of the Holy Spirit's presence? How so?

Exorcisms, magic and sorcery were all common practices that were readily accepted among the Ephesians. What are some things that you unthinkingly engage in that are normal to our culture but run contrary to the Word of God? What steps can you take to remedy this?

## GROUP RESPONSE

Paul saw opposition (in the form of riots) after the people repented and burned their sorcery books. When the Church grows, Satan attacks. Discuss amongst your group times within our church or another when there was opposition from the enemy.

Idolatry is having a greater desire for anything that was created rather than a desire for the Creator Himself. We may not worship statues, but there are other forms of idolatry that we likely engage in. Ponder those affections of your heart that you put before God and confess to one another. Pray for one another to repent and to only worship our One True God.

## REPRODUCE

Are we doing anything significant enough on behalf of God's kingdom to stir up the enemy's opposition? Pray that we may seek ways for our church to impact our culture.

## KEY VERSES

- Acts 19
- Acts 2:4-6