



Sermon
Discussion
Guide

Sunday, June 22, 2025

ACTS – Changed Lives Gospel Impact

Read/Reflect

1. Read Acts 19:1-7. This is a notoriously confusing passage because it raises unanswerable questions, like: 1) were these “disciples” Christian disciples? 2) what did Paul mean in vs.2 by “when you believed?”-- since you can’t believe in Jesus without the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:14-16; Gal. 3:3-5)? 3) why are there no other accounts of “second baptisms (for Apollos, or Paul, or other disciples?) What do you think Luke is after in giving us this account if it is at all reflective of Luke’s original theme in Acts 1 & 2?
2. Read Acts 19:8-22. The incidents of Acts 19 take place when Paul is in Ephesus on his third missionary journey. List all the cultural engagement Paul gets involved with. What does that say about the missionary enterprise of the church?
3. By reviewing Paul’s letter to the Ephesians in the New Testament, can you identify links to the background given here in Acts 19? Consider especially the violent reaction to the Gospel in Ephesus (see 19:23-41) and the special assurance that the young believers really belong to Christ and the church in 19:1-7.

Explore

4. Describe in either general terms, or with a specific instance, what it’s like to experience the Holy Spirit come upon you?
5. What do you think is the purpose of Luke highlighting the extraordinary things that happen through Paul (19:11-12)
 - ☐ To make Paul a celebrity or hero?
 - ☐ To describe the power of the Holy Spirit?
 - ☐ To create an expectation for these things to happen in any Spirit-filled person?
 - ☐ Other: _____
6. How would you assess the Gospel impact of the church today in the world with respect to these four aspects?

<input type="checkbox"/> A deeply personal impact	Good	Fair	Poor
<input type="checkbox"/> An intellectual impact	Good	Fair	Poor
<input type="checkbox"/> A miraculous impact	Good	Fair	Poor
<input type="checkbox"/> A peaceful, patient, persistent impact:	Good	Fair	Poor

Pray

- How can you pray for the church, given your responses to question 6?