



Living Water
Church

Diving Deeper: A Gather Group Discussion Guide
or Personal Study Guide



From Darkness to Light

Introduction: Paul continues his mission to the people of Ephesus through preaching and sharing the good news of the gospel. The power of the Holy Spirit is authenticating his ministry through miracles. The people are amazed and receive the gospel and turn from their sins. This causes a great disturbance in the city.

Text: Acts 19:11-41

Discussion:

1. Icebreaker: When have you made a decision that caused a controversy from those around you? Was your decision one that was noble and good? What was the outcome?
2. The book of Acts demonstrates the reality that the kingdom of God would be preached throughout the world. The Holy Spirit empowered the church to be a witness for Jesus. Throughout the book, there are moments of the supernatural. Examine the times when healing took place. What do you notice that follows this act of God? Why is it important to understand why the Holy Spirit worked in such miraculous ways during the life of the apostolic fathers?
3. Why must we be discerning from modern day “faith healers?” Can you imagine Jesus, Peter, or Paul making a show of healing? Can you imagine them asking for money to receive healing?
4. Acts 19:11-20 How do we know that the people who believed in the Lord truly repented of their sin?
5. Repentance is not something we say—its something we do. Discuss/Write what true repentance looks like?
6. Why did they burn the books?
7. What things need to be burned from your life?
8. Acts 19:23-41. Why did Demetrius get so upset?
9. Why did the Christians stop buying the silver gods? How does this show the genuine repentance of the believers in Ephesus?
10. How does your Christian faith change how you spend your money? or does it?
11. How did Demetrius try to justify the riot he created? How does the world try to riot against the values of Christian faith?
12. What do you learn about the gospel in this story?
13. How will the truth of this event impact your life?

Think About it:

The gospel brings people out of the darkness and into the light. Jesus came to set the captives free. The people of Ephesus were slaves to the demonic and dark magic of their day. There is no power in hell that is greater than the power of Christ. Jesus brings us out of the dark so that we can walk as children of the light. Therefore, let your light shine before men so they might see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Moving Forward:

Allow the Holy Spirit to search your heart and mind to see if there is any sin or stronghold that has captured you. What is it that needs to be removed from your life? What do you battle: fear, anger, unforgiveness, lust, addictions, etc.

Be honest and do whatever you need to do to rid yourself from anything that is oppressing you.