

Here are some talking points to get your group talking to each other and to start generating meaningful discussion. **Start Thinking.** Ask questions to get your group thinking. Which part of the message was most impactful to you and why? **Talking About the** conversations; remember, you want others to do most of the talking. **NOTE: Pastor may not cover all points in all services.**

Open: Paul arrives in Ephesus and finds disciples who were baptized into John's baptism but unaware of the Holy Spirit. So Paul baptizes them, lays hands on them and they receive the Holy Spirit. Now Paul is ready to follow his normal pattern when he enters a region and begins speaking in the local synagogue until he was no longer welcome. He then leaves the synagogue and teaches in another location for two years. Where ever each of is at, it is only the beginning.

1. What portion of the people seem to cause trouble? **A. See V 9:** Some of the people; a small number. Don't be distracted by some of the people, but focus on the truth and not our feelings.
2. If we want peace, what things should we meditate on and do? **A. Phil 4:8-9**
3. What did Paul do when he and his message were rejected in the synagogue? **A. v 9** He moved the believers and his teaching to a different location. What was the result? **A. v10** Both Jews and Greeks in Asia heard the word where Paul had previously been blocked by the Holy Spirit from going. It all worked in God's perfect timing.
4. What did signs & wonders do for an apostle's ministry? **A.** They authenticated it. **2Cor 12:12**
5. **Verses 11-12** What did the handkerchiefs and aprons provide for the sick and those possessed by an evil spirit? **A.** They were a point of contact that released their creative faith. With regards to faith, God uses things, people and situations to do what for us? **A.** To activated our faith to take faith filled action. Example: The woman in Matthew 9 with the issue of blood who touched the hem of Jesus's garment. Application: Take a step of faith and do something different. Don't settle for less than God has for us.
6. How does God use the radical and unusual? **A.** To reach the lost (and I would add, to bolster the faith of believers).
7. What do the efforts of the 7 sons of Sceva teach us about trying to use the name of Jesus to cast out evil spirits without a relationship with Jesus? **A. v13-16** These efforts are ineffective, and potentially dangerous. They are the result of attempting to selfishly co-opt the power of God through counterfeit truth and falsehood. The person will eventually be exposed. (pun intended). **1John 4:4 & Isa 48:11**
Application: God wants us to fearlessly renounce the "hidden things of darkness." Go boldly where God wants us to go.
8. **Verses 17-20** What did the true power of God accomplish? **A.** To bring conviction, confession of sin and real repentance. See the example of Zacchaeus the tax collector in **Luke 19:1-0**. Point: Zacchaeus is an example of an inward change resulting in an outward change. Application: We need to ask, when we got saved and left the world, did we leave the world behind? Or, did we take some of the world with us. Point: Radical sin needs to be dealt with radically.
9. **V22** Paul got to do in Asia what he had been blocked by the Holy Spirit from doing previously. What is the application for us and our ministry? **A.** We need to wait on the Lord; trust and abide in Christ. When we are doing what Gods wants us to do, where and when He calls us to do it, He will "have our back."
10. **V23-27** Here is the spiritual battle in Ephesus. What were the silversmiths trying to do with the idol of Diana? **A.** Make a profit. They hated the message of the gospel which threatened their livelihood. Application: We will be hated when we serve God and make personal connections and get involved in people's lives. Despite the hatred and opposition, we must stand for the gospel.
11. **V28-41** What can we learn from the chaos of the crowd? **A.** 1) It is the devil who creates confusion.
2) Don't get involved with mobs. What type of violence is acceptable for believers? **A.** Spiritual violence – using prayer as a weapon, and moving forward against all opposition. Walk in faith and confidence. **Ps 142:5**

(1) creating profiles on the Calvary App so your group can create a group chat on the app. Let Pastor Josh know so he can set your group up for you. (3) Please remember to fill out the LIFEgroup meeting assessment form after your meeting. Here is the link: <https://bit.ly/LIFEgroup-Assessment>

LIFEgroups
talk it over | week 5
discussion | study 24478
You Will Be Hated

Acts 19:8-41

Pastor Ed