

Main Passage: Acts 19:23-27 Acts 20:28-30

Acts 19:1–7 Acts 19:28–41 Spiritual Warfare:

Acts 19:8–10 Contextual/Supporting Ephesians 6:10–18

Passages:

Acts 19:11–12 2 Corinthians 10:3–5

Acts 19:13–16

Acts 18:19-21

Acts 19:17-20

# ACTionS: Week 10 - A Different Kind of Battle

Text: Acts 19

**Theme:** Spiritual warfare, equipping for ministry, and recognizing the real battle in a growing church.

# I. Timing is Everything

God's plan often involves divine delays and strategic preparation.

- Paul did not stay in Ephesus the first time (Acts 18:19–21)
- The Holy Spirit **redirected** his earlier travels (Acts 16:7–8)
- He returns at the right time, ready for the battle ahead.

"I will come back later, God willing." - Acts 18:21

### II. The Power of the Right Team

Ministry isn't meant to be done alone—it takes a **Spirit-filled team**.

- Paul finds believers in Ephesus (Acts 19:1–2)
- He asks, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit?" (Acts 19:2)
- They are baptized, filled, and become **twelve Spirit-empowered partners** (Acts 19:6–7)

## **III. Teaching with Tenacity**

Paul invests deeply through **bold teaching** and **daily discipleship**.

- Three months in the synagogue (Acts 19:8–9)
- Two years in the Hall of Tyrannus (Acts 19:10)
- Estimated **2,400 hours** of instruction

#### IV. Tinder for the Fire

Miracles and bold faith became the **spark** that ignited the city.

- God works unusual miracles through Paul (Acts 19:11–12)
- The **sons of Sceva** try to imitate authority without the Spirit (Acts 19:13–16)
- People respond in repentance and burn their sorcery scrolls (Acts 19:17–20)

#### V. The Clash with Culture

The Gospel confronts false gods and economic idols.

- Demetrius the silversmith stirs up trouble (Acts 19:23–27)
- Motivated by money, disguised as devotion

• The riot reveals the **depth of resistance** when the Gospel hits close to home (Acts 19:28–41)

"Handmade gods aren't really gods at all." – Acts 19:26

#### VI. Guard the Flock

Paul warns of a different kind of battle—internal threats.

- From outside: demons, idols, greed
- From inside: false teachers, twisted truth (Acts 20:28–30)

"Even men from your own group will rise up and distort the truth..." – Acts 20:30

### VII. Our Battle Today

We are not fighting flesh and blood. It's time to suit up.

- Ephesians 6:10–18 The Armor of God
- Stand strong, stay alert, pray persistently

"Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power..." – Ephesians 6:10

# Key Takeaways

- Wait on God's timing it's not about convenience but readiness.
- Empower your team ministry is a shared battle.
- Keep teaching consistent truth deposits change hearts.
- Stay spiritually alert the greatest threat may come from within.
- Put on the armor we are in a different kind of battle.