

*And he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God. (Acts 19:8 NKJV)*

Boldness isn't arrogance or being belligerent; it's Spirit-empowered courage.

*But when some were hardened and did not believe, but spoke evil of the Way before the multitude, he departed from them and withdrew the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus. (Acts 19:9 NKJV)*

There is a time to plant, and there is a time to move on.

*while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." (Hebrews 3:15 NKJV)*

**Ministry is rarely tidy; it's faithfulness in the margins.**

*And this continued for two years, so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks. (Acts 19:10 NKJV)*

When the gospel came to you, it was on its way to someone else.

*And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. (2 Timothy 2:2 NKJV)*

**Measure church health not by seating capacity but sending capacity.**

*Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them. (Acts 19:11-12 NKJV)*

These were extraordinary events. Faith...God honors faith.

*But without faith [it is] impossible to please [Him], for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and [that] He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. (Hebrews 11:6 NKJV)*

**So often, we want the method, the formula, the steps. God wants our trust.**

*Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches." (Acts 19:13 NKJV)*

**People want the benefits of the gospel without giving Jesus full authority in their lives.**

*"Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' (Matthew 7:22-23 NKJV)*

**Salvation isn't a mantra you chant; it's a Master you trust.**

*Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. (Acts 19:14-16 NKJV)*

**If you are in Christ, you have His authority — but apart from Christ, there's no power.**

*This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. (Acts 19:17 NKJV)*

Respect for the name of Jesus returned, not magic...Messiah.

*that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and [that] every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ [is] Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:10-11 NKJV)*

**When Jesus' name is revered, idols tremble.**

*And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned [them] in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and [it] totaled fifty thousand [pieces] of silver. (Acts 19:18-19 NKJV)*

Repentance is more than saying sorry — it's about change.

*For godly sorrow produces repentance [leading] to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. (2 Corinthians 7:10 NKJV)*

*So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed. (Acts 19:20 NKJV)*

***Repentance leads to revival. Holiness leads to harvest.***

***When God's people take Him at His Word, His Word advances.***

*When these things were accomplished, Paul purposed in the Spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, "After I have been there, I must also see Rome." So he sent into Macedonia two of those who ministered to him, Timothy and Erastus, but he himself stayed in Asia for a time. (Acts 19:21-22 NKJV)*

Let God give you a burden for places and people that others overlook.

*And about that time there arose a great commotion about the Way. For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Diana, brought no small profit to the craftsmen. He called them together with the workers of similar occupation, and said: "Men, you know that we have our prosperity by this trade. "Moreover you see and hear that not only at Ephesus, but throughout almost all Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people, saying that they are not gods which are made with hands. "So not only is this trade of ours in danger of falling into disrepute, but also the temple of the great goddess Diana may be despised and her magnificence destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worship." (Acts 19:23-27 NKJV)*

Are we willing to disrupt comfort in order to bring truth?

*Now when they heard [this], they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, "Great [is] Diana of the Ephesians!" So the whole city was filled with confusion, and rushed into the theater with one accord, having seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians, Paul's travel companions. And when Paul wanted to go in to the people, the disciples would not allow him. Then some of the officials of Asia, who were his friends, sent to him pleading that he would not venture into the theater. Some therefore cried one thing and some another, for the assembly was confused, and most of them did not know why they had come together. And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander motioned with his hand, and wanted to make his defense to the people. But when they found out that he was a Jew, all with one voice cried out for about two hours, "Great [is] Diana of the Ephesians!" (Acts 19:28-34 NKJV)*

Lost people can be very passionate about things they don't fully understand.

*There is a way [that seems] right to a man, But its end [is] the way of death. (Proverbs 16:25 NKJV)*

*And when the city clerk had quieted the crowd, he said: "Men of Ephesus, what man is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple guardian of the great goddess Diana, and of the [image] which fell down from Zeus? "Therefore, since these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rashly. "For you have brought these men here who are neither robbers of temples nor blasphemers of your goddess. "Therefore, if Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a case against anyone, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. Let them bring charges against one another. "But if you have any other inquiry to make, it shall be determined in the lawful assembly. "For we are in danger of being called in question for today's uproar, there being no reason which we may give to account for this disorderly gathering." And when he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly. (Acts 19:35-41 NKJV)*

***Too often, we spend more energy attacking falsehood than declaring the truth.***

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. (Romans 1:16 NKJV)*

*Jesus is the unrivaled King.*

*He outshines silver idols, outmuscles demons, and outlasts riots.*

*Amen!*