



ACTS 19

Artemis. Greek goddess of the moon, wild animals, and hunting. The cult of Artemis at Ephesus, where she is called Diana by the Romans (Acts 19:23-41), regarded her especially as a fertility goddess.¹

The major event that Luke records for us in acts 19 highlights how followers of Jesus became disruptors to the religious and economic system in Ephesus.

What is the concern raised by Demetrius? Acts 19:23-27

How do the people of Ephesus respond to Demetrius' concern?

A disruptor is a person or thing that prevents something, especially a system, process, or event from continuing as usual or as expected (Cambridge Dictionary).

¹ Elwell, W. A., & Beitzel, B. J. (1988). Artemis. In *Baker encyclopedia of the Bible* (Vol. 1, p. 208). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

1. Name one company that has disrupted an industry. (Example: Uber)
2. Why do you think Apple was able to disrupt the music industry instead of one of the music companies?
3. What are the potential benefits of disruptors?

DISCUSSION

1. List the different times in Acts 19 that you see people being influenced by the gospel.
2. Tim Keller (Counterfeit Gods) defines idolatry: Idolatry is not just a failure to obey God, it is a setting of the whole heart on anything besides God. Do you agree or disagree?

REFLECTION

1. Do you know your personal idols? What would you identify as our city idols?
2. What is the difference between knowing something and understanding it?
3. How does understanding influence that application of what we know?
4. What part of your life needs to change in this season because of the gospel?

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