

1. The Battle For Our Hearts

“Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?” (Acts 19:11-16)

Knowing God vs Knowing About God

We're in Christ and Christ is in us (John 14:19b-21)

2. The Battle In Our Stuff

Fetish: an object (such as a small stone carving of an animal) believed to have magical power to protect or aid its owner

- Definition taken from Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Ephesian context ...

- Ephesus most prominent city in ancient world in regards to magic
- A large part of Ephesian economy was making “fetishes” - devices they would carry around their neck to hold their spells and formulas ...
- What happens next?

Burn your junk (Acts 19:19-20)

- Break all ties with evil - burn your junk
- Bobbie in Haiti
- Ring in college
- Will you join me in taking an inventory and getting rid of anything that might be an invitation for evil and oppose Jesus and his Kingdom?

3. What you can expect going forward ...

- Conflict
 - Witchcraft mailed to us
 - Spells cast against our church

Economic clash? Cultural clash? But at the deepest level a spiritual clash (Acts 19:25-27)

Giving authority and sending the 12 (Luke 9:1-2)

Evil is defeated, disarmed and made a spectacle (Colossians 2:13-15)

4. Invitation to live out the passage today ...

Repent - Confession frees us from sin and ushers in God's free gift of grace and freedom that comes with the Kingdom of God (1 John 1:9; Mark 1:14-15)

Forgive - Want to grow in love? Forgive more deeply! (Romans 5:5; Luke 6:27-28)

Renounce - Renouncing is a step further than repenting. It is declaring you want no more to do with any evil influence in your life. You actively oppose evil by following Jesus. We often say in the name of Jesus to break any ties with _____, bind them up in the name of Jesus and send them to Jesus for him to deal with as he will (Ez. 14:6; Dan. 4:27)

Authority - Just as Jesus was sent and given authority he sends us and gives believers his authority to continue his work (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:17-18)

Blessing - Asking God to replace the areas of our life that were once full of pain or sin and fill them with the fruit of the Spirit. It is asking God to use us as instruments of healing as his kingdom invades enemy territory (Gal. 5; 1 Chron. 4:9-10)