

Almost Christian
Full Send Message Series Week 18
Acts 18:23-19:27

Pastor Jeff Burkholder
February 18, 2024

Marks of a true follower of Jesus:

- 1. There is evidence of the Holy Spirit.** (Acts 19:1-7; Ephesians 1:13-14; John 3:3-7; Titus 3:4-6)

“When a person is genuinely converted to faith in Jesus, he or she gets *new affections*. Old loves, desires, and interests are replaced with new ones. Those who have become new creations in Christ (2 Cor 5:17) experience a new love for Jesus, his church, and his mission. The converts in Ephesus illustrate this dynamic. The Ephesians loved many things—sports, theater, idols (especially their famed goddess, Artemis), and wealth. But when Paul preached the gospel and the Holy Spirit opened the eyes of many in the city, they experienced a change in affections.”

Tony Merida, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in Acts*,
B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2017, p. 288.

- 2. There is a turning from sin and sinful practices.** (Acts 19:17-20; Galatians 5:19-21)

“We believe the evidence of salvation is a changed life. The mark of a growing believer is the presence of the fruit of the Spirit. The believer’s Christian walk will express itself in conformity to Christ in life, conduct, and service.”

-CBC’s Statement of Faith on Holy Living