



Topeka Bible Church
The Life of Paul, Episode 30:
"Halloween's Scared"
Community Group Study Questions
Acts 19:8-22 and selected passages

1. What sort of investment did Paul put into his ministry in Asia (Acts 19:10; 20:31)? For a nomadic church planter, why do you think Paul spent so much time in Ephesus? What sort of return did he receive on his "investment?"

2. What is the craziest miracle you have ever heard of (or seen)? Aren't the "extraordinary" miracles in Acts 19:11-12 somewhat silly? Why would God choose to communicate His salvation through these strange miracles (2 Corinthians 5:19)?

3. Why would these Jewish exorcists use the name of Jesus Christ if they did not believe in Him (Acts 19:13)? Why is it dangerous to misuse the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 19:15-16; 1 Peter 5:8)?

4. What was the ultimate result of this incident (Acts 19:17)? How would "fear" cause people to hold the name of Jesus Christ in high esteem? Why do so many people not esteem Jesus Christ today (Luke 21:17; John 15:21)?

5. Reflect on the phrases "fear of/fears the Lord" or "fear of/fears God" (used over 40 times throughout the Old and New Testaments). Search through some of its uses. What do you find (*Proverbs 1:7*)? Is this the same "fear" mentioned in *Acts 19:17*?

6. How free must the people in *Acts 19:18* have felt? How has God's forgiveness granted your similar "freedom?" Do you really believe that God chooses to overlook your past and give you a glorious future (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)? Why or why not?

7. What caused Paul to leave for Jerusalem (*Acts 19:21*; Hint: if you have the NIV, check the NASB or KJV)? Why was Paul compelled to go to Rome (*Acts 23:11*; *Romans 15:24, 28*)? What did God have in store for him there (*Acts 28:30-31*)?

Memory Verses:

"When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor."

(Acts 19:17, NIV)

"In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power."

(Acts 19:20, NIV)