

Digging Deeper: Acts 19:1-10

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Day 1

Read through and pray over Acts 19:1-10

Acts 19:1-2: Paul reaches Ephesus and he finds some disciples of John The Baptist. Paul questions these men asking them if they have received the Holy Spirit. Now this was a unique time period of transition after the death and resurrection of Jesus. In John 14:15-17, Jesus promises the Holy Spirit to all who believe in him. These disciples of John did not know of The Holy Spirit. Paul asked the important question. As you converse daily with those around you in social and work environments, are you asking the important questions? Pray today that God would lead you to ask the important questions regarding the knowledge of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Day 2

Acts 19:3-4: Paul continues his questioning asking what baptism they received. With his very direct questions, Paul was able to discover that these men had received John's baptism in that they repented of sin but were still in need of a Messiah. They did not know Jesus Christ as their Messiah and Savior. With this information Paul now presents the good news of Jesus as the one whom John The Baptist spoke of in Matthew 3:11. Not only did Paul ask the important questions but he also listened carefully to understand and respond appropriately. Take time today to consider your ability to listen carefully. Listening is also very important in order to respond in grace and truth.

Day 3

Acts 19:5-6: Immediately upon hearing the good news they were now baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Paul laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. Paul presented the knowledge and they were ready to receive it. There are people in this world right now that God is preparing to receive the life saving knowledge of Jesus. Pray right now that you will be ready to question, listen, and present the good news of Jesus to those around you.

Day 4

Acts 19:7-8: Paul then continued on by sharing about the Kingdom of God in the synagogue. Although Paul spoke boldly he did so with reasoning and through convincing. Paul did not stop after he shared the good news with those 12 men. He continued on mission. Jesus has given us all that same mission. It is our life long mission not a box to complete and check off our list. Read Matthew 28:19-20, The Great Commission. I pray that we would internalize this mission as our own direct order from Jesus and that we would be continually on mission as Paul was.

Day 5

Acts 19:9-10: Paul spoke boldly for three months in the synagogue. Over time many began to be hardened to what Paul was speaking and stubbornly rejected the way of the Kingdom of God. They heard the knowledge and refused to believe. At this time Paul gathered all who did believe and moved on to share Christ with a new group of people. This will happen to us as well. Some people will reject the message of Christ we share. However, our mission must not cease and there are times when we will need to simply collect ourselves and move on to wherever God drops us off next.

Day 6

Pray for a mission mindset. Pray for strength to use your God-given abilities to tell others about Christ. Pray that the knowledge of Christ would empower others to believe. That we the church, as the body of Christ, would come together to strengthen our faith and witness that we may be equipped for mission. And may our efforts be continuous. In Jesus name.