



Destroying Idols

Discussion Guide
October 22, 2017
Acts 19:8-41

Questions for Study

** Before you begin discussing these questions, read through Acts 19:8-41 as a group.

- 1) Have you ever had a team experience (sports, work, school) when you had someone on your team that basically assured you victory? Describe how that affected the confidence with which you approached the game / task / project.
- 2) Read the following statement, then answer the questions that follow: "As followers of Jesus Christ, our victory is sure. But opposition is also real."
 - How do we see the reality of opposition to the mission of the church (Acts 1:8) in Acts 19:8-41? Work together to identify at least 3-4 observations.
 - How do we see the "assuredness" (or surety) of victory in this same passage?
- 3) How should the assurance of our victory in Christ – and of Christ's victory over sin and evil – motivate us to boldly advance the mission of the church we read about in Acts 1:8?
- 4) Idolatry had a strong presence in Ephesus – this city was home to the temple of the false goddess Artemis. (This temple was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.) Summarize the city's reaction when the gospel took root in Ephesus. See especially verses 17-32.
- 5) As a group, work together to construct a short definition of idolatry. (To help get you thinking, Jeremiah 2:13 can provide some help.)
- 6) How can idolatry manifest itself in our 21st century American context, and in our lives as individuals?
- 7) In Acts 19, when idols are uprooted it leads to reaction and opposition. Why is the influence of idolatry so hard to uproot?
- 8) Pastor Jeff shared a handful of practical ways to destroy idols. Briefly review what he shared. What was most helpful to you most from these practical applications?
- 9) What is one practical step of application you need to take because of what you've learned from Acts 19:8-41? Share this with your group, and pray together for these things before finishing.
- 10) Challenge: Memorize Jeremiah 2:13: "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water."