

THE GOSPEL MAKES A DIFFERENCE

LESSON 4 - JUNE 25, 2023

(Bible Study – June 28, 2023)

The Gospel has the power to radically change the hearts of people and, by extension, communities.

(GOLDEN TEXT) ACTS 19:19 Many of them also which used curios arts brought their books together and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.

GOSPEL MINISTRY IN A DIFFICULT PLACE

(ACTS 17: 16-34)

1- In Acts 17:16, the scripture says Paul's "spirit was stirred in him". What does that mean and what caused that to happen in him?

2- Acts 17:18 states that the Philosophers called Paul a "Babbler" and accused him of preaching about "strange gods". If that's how they felt, why do you think they took the time to listen to him?

3- It can be said that all of us today here in America and in the church, still have idols. What would be some examples of modern day idolatry?

4- What are some communication lessons we learn from Paul's example in Athens, that we can use today?

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RADICAL SIGNS OF REPENTANCE

(ACTS 19:11-22)

1-The Gospel message is powerful, do you feel it will always be effective and received if it is presented correctly?

2- Paul has to share the Gospel in a context his audience will understand, but he also has to demonstrate the POWER of the Gospel in the same manner. How was the Gospel power demonstrated in Ephesus?

3- Why do you think those demonstrations of power resonated with the people in Ephesus?

4. The name of Jesus proved to be so powerful among the Ephesians that they destroyed their books of magic which was worth 50,000 pieces of silver. Then they began to sincerely believe in Jesus. What can we learn from this display of faith?

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OPPOSITION TO THE GOSPEL

(ACTS 19: 23-41)

1- The Gospel message was strongly opposed by some in Ephesus. Who opposed the message and why?

2- What are some of the gods or idols that the Gospel message threatens today?

3- The Gospel still receives very strong negative reactions today. What do you feel are some reasons for this?

DEFINITIONS

AREOPAGUS-

AREOPAGITE-

POLYTHEISTIC-

STOICS-

EXTRAORDINARY-

CRAFT-