

groups.

— Notes | August 24, 2025

Holy Spirit | Acts 19

What can God do with fresh surrender? When we realize that the world cannot fill the empty places of our heart, we find ourselves hungry and in need of a fresh outpouring of God's Spirit. This is where the Church of Ephesus found itself when Paul arrived in their town. A handful of disciples had gone before and introduced the Ephesians to Jesus, and now they were hungry for more of Him. When they surrendered the old for the new, they received an outpouring of God's Spirit unlike anything they had seen. Miracles, signs, wonders, and a holy awe ignited them for God's presence and flipped their territory upside down. This is the way of the Kingdom—surrendering old wineskins for fresh wineskins so a fresh outpouring of God's Spirit can be received. What can God do with fresh surrender? He can soften and transform hearts, ignite a new desire for His presence and power, renew marriages, and flip the territory upside down through the love of Jesus.

Key Scripture | Luke 5:37-38 ESV

“And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins—and it will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins.”

Related Scriptures

— Acts 2:1-47, Acts 19

Icebreakers:

— Q: If you had to pick a theme song for leaving the past behind, what would it be?

Key Thoughts and Reflections: _____

Acts 19 reveals the THREE THINGS that happen when the HOLY SPIRIT shows up:

I. The Hungry are Filled. (Acts 19:1–10)

Q: When was the first time you realized that God had MORE for you? How did you respond?

Q: The people of Ephesus were hungry for more. They had been water baptized. Paul was inviting them to a baptism of the Spirit who would FILL THEM. How does the Holy Spirit continually fill us?

Q: What does the Holy Spirit fill us with?

II. The Fakers are Exposed. (Acts 19:11–19)

Q: When the Holy Spirit shows up, God does miracles. We all have at least one miracle story—our salvation. In your own experience, how did salvation reveal the power of God?

Q: God's power is authentic, while the enemy can only counterfeit what God creates. How can we get caught up in the enemy's counterfeit and find ourselves playing games with the name of Jesus?

Q: In our key scripture, we learn that if we are hungry for more of God, we must switch out our old wineskins for the new. What are some practical ways that God leads us into this transformation?

III. The Community is Transformed. (Acts 19:20, 23–31)

Q: Read Acts 19:13-20. Did the response of the Ephesians lead to the word of the Lord spreading as shared in verse twenty? Why or why not?

Q: What can God do in a person's heart with fresh surrender? How might the transformation of one transform the community?

Q: If we have the same fresh expectancy/faith for God's power to flip our community upside down as He did in Ephesus, what might change? God has blessed you with the territory of your home, business, school, community and church. Share specific things that you would like to see God do in your territory. Write these down to pray throughout the week.

Get Practical _____

It was the hunger of a few surrendered souls that partnered with the Holy Spirit to change a city. Ephesus was changed ONE PERSON at a time. That's the way God's kingdom works. This week, ask God to show you the old wineskin that He wants to replace with new and surrender this to Him. Over the next seven days, commit to praying over your territory and pray over requests shared by your group, family or friends. If you need prayer, reach out to your small group leader or text prayer to 37748 so we can pray with you.