

ACTS: POWER

Sermon Discussion Guide - August 7, 2022

[READ] Acts 19:1-20

Intro Question:

In what ways has God given you power? In what ways have you been affected by the abuse of power?

I. POWER: STRUGGLE

Review VS 19:11-16

- How were some of these Jews trying to gain power? More importantly, *why* do you think they were hungry for more power?
- Adam mentioned that we all seek power because we all have a need to be noticed and find approval. Discuss how you relate or don't relate with this?
- Do you see any of the following signs of needing power? Arrogance over another group of people; talking too much about self; impatience toward those who don't believe what you do; inability to admit weakness.

II. POWER: HOLY SPIRIT

Read VS 6, 17-19

- How do you see fruits of the Holy Spirit at work in their new lives as Christians?
- BURN PILE: One thing they did was to burn their costly ungodly books. Paul in Philippians 3 makes a list of his accomplishments and considers them rubbish compared to knowing Christ. What are some things in your life that you rely on to bring you power that need to be brought to the Lord and "burned"?
- CONFESSION: Why is it easy to hide areas of weakness, struggle, and inward or hidden sin? Why is it hard to confess it to others?

III. POWER: SON

Read VS 10, 20, 1 Cor. 2:1-6 & Philippians 2:5-8

- What was the message that Paul preached and how was that a demonstration of giving up power?
- How does Jesus give up power (Philippians 2:5-8)? Why did Jesus give up power?
- How does what Jesus do (and continue to do) motivate you to give up your pursuit of power and lay down your life to serve others around you?
- What is one take away or area where you'd like to see God bring change in your life?

