



Welcome + Opening Prayer

Acts 19:23-41

See passage printed on the back of this page.

THEMATIC OVERVIEW

*What should a person's life
be built on if Jesus is who
He says He is?*

Explore + Apply

1. Who or what are you asking “to be god” in your life—instead of God? What is a good desire that has become an ultimate desire and runs your life (health, acceptance, security, control, fulfillment, etc.)? Try to share a specific, recent example.
2. What do the things you worship—the people and things and scenarios you have made primary in your life—say about the story you believe is true? What story does your worship tell? An example: “The story behind the worship of control: If I am not in control, who would look out for me? The people in my life who were supposed to care haven’t cared. No one, including God, will take care of me if I don’t take care of myself.” How does this discredit who God is and promises to be?
3. How does worshipping Jesus Christ bring freedom and genuine satisfaction to the specific desires you named in response to question #1?

Pray

PRAYER GUIDELINES

*In prayer, we ask God to
transform us and the world
around us with His grace.*

- Praise God that He deeply desires for us to know Him.
- Pray and listen: “O Lord my God, tell me what you are to me. Say to my soul, ‘I am your salvation.’ Say it so that I can hear it.”
- Pray the story of God’s grace through Jesus Christ would bring freedom as His Kingdom comes in our relationships, our communities, our workplaces, our city, and the world.

GROUP SCHEDULE - SPRING

*holy week starts Mar 25
stations of the cross Mar 30
next HG week of Apr 1
sunday groups discuss Easter
meal together*

Home Groups are a vital part of shared life and growth in Christ. Here, we build community, deepen relationships, and discover and live the Christian life together.

Acts 19:23-41

²³ About that time there arose no little disturbance concerning the Way. ²⁴ For a man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no little business to the craftsmen. ²⁵ These he gathered together, with the workmen in similar trades, and said, "Men, you know that from this business we have our wealth. ²⁶ And you see and hear that not only in Ephesus but in almost all of Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away a great many people, saying that gods made with hands are not gods. ²⁷ And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her magnificence, she whom all Asia and the world worship."

²⁸ When they heard this they were enraged and were crying out, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" ²⁹ So the city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul's companions in travel. ³⁰ But when Paul wished to go in among the crowd, the disciples would not let him. ³¹ And even some of the Asiarchs, who were friends of his, sent to him and were urging him not to venture into the theater. ³² Now some cried out one thing, some another, for the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together. ³³ Some of the crowd prompted Alexander, whom the Jews had put forward. And Alexander, motioning with his hand, wanted to make a defense to the crowd. ³⁴ But when they recognized that he was a Jew, for about two hours they all cried out with one voice, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

³⁵ And when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he said, "Men of Ephesus, who is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great Artemis, and of the sacred stone that fell from the sky? ³⁶ Seeing then that these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rash. ³⁷ For you have brought these men here who are neither sacrilegious nor blasphemers of our goddess. ³⁸ If therefore Demetrius and the craftsmen with him have a complaint against anyone, the courts are open, and there are proconsuls. Let them bring charges against one another. ³⁹ But if you seek anything further, it shall be settled in the regular assembly. ⁴⁰ For we really are in danger of being charged with rioting today, since there is no cause that we can give to justify this commotion." ⁴¹ And when he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly.