

A VIBRANT FAITH

Acts 19:2 (NIV) *While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples² and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."*

Acts 19:3 (NIV) *So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?" "John's baptism," they replied.⁴ Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus."⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.⁶ When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues¹ and prophesied.⁷ There were about twelve men in all.*

Eph. 1:13 (NIV) *And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit "When you believed"*

Rom 8:9 (NIV) *You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ*

1 Cor. 19:9 (NIV) *But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus*

1. Hold Jesus in High Honor (11-17)

¹¹ *God did extraordinary miracles through Paul,¹² so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.*

¹⁷ *When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor*

Gal. 5:22 (NIV) *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,²³ gentleness and self-control.*

2. Confess our sins and rid our lives of it (18-20)

¹⁸ *Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed what they had done.*

¹⁹ *A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas.*

²⁰ *So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.*

3. Our Victory is in Christ (21-34)

Acts 19:23 (NIV) *About that time there arose a great disturbance about the Way. ²⁴ A silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in a lot of business for the craftsmen there.*

³² *The assembly was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there.*