

**THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW**  
**Christianity In The Making: From Jerusalem To The South Bay**  
**Acts 19**

**For discussion with your small group, an accountability partner, your spouse, or for your own reflection.**

1. Looking back at this week's teaching on Acts 19, Paul in Ephesus, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?
2. Have you had any experiences either in reading or meeting with religious counterfeits? Any that have really scared you?
3. When and where were you baptized?
4. In your experience is the pen (rational discourse, judicial review, preaching) mightier than the sword (mob looting, strong arm politics, police tactics)? Why?
5. How do people try to use Jesus for their own purposes today? What is the difference between that and real faith in Christ?
6. What did you have to change in your lifestyle when you first began to follow Jesus? Are there some things you are reluctant to get rid of, "burn" now, in order to be really honest with God? What would it cost you to get rid of them?
7. Success, money, and independence are cultural idols or values most people accept without question. What others come to mind? How has your faith affected your relationship to these idols?
8. Could Demetrius have become a Christian and kept his business? Can you think of situations today where someone in a respectable trade would be forced to choose between that trade and Christ? What pressures would that cause?
9. Where have you seen religious and patriotic loyalties used as a cover for economic concerns? What does it mean to follow Jesus at these times?
10. What began as Artemis-worship became Artemis-business. How can Christians fall into the same trap and make Jesus-worship into Jesus-business?



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