

June 4, 2023
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
The Book of Acts // Paul's 3rd Missionary Journey S3 Ep1
Paul in Ephesus: More Than Saved
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Acts 19:1-7

1 While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples 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." 2 So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?" "John's baptism," they replied. 3 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." 4 On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. 5 When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. 7 There were about twelve men in all.

Main Point: God has called us to be more than saved.

1. Paul came across disciples who were stuck in their faith.
2. Paul exposed believers to the Holy Spirit, who then equipped and resourced them for fullness in Christ.

1. Stuck in their faith.

Vs. 1 *There he found some disciples and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"*

- Luke, the author of Acts identifies those that Paul met as not only **believers but also disciples**.
 - What do we know about these believing disciples?
 - They had confessed and repented of their sins but not experienced the Holy Spirit.
 - Vs. 4 Paul said, "John's baptism was a **baptism of repentance**."
 - They had been baptized as a symbol of that conversion.
 - They believed in the hope of the coming Messiah.
 - It is very possible that they did not know who Jesus was until Paul told them.

2. Paul exposed believers to the Holy Spirit, who then equipped and resourced them for fullness in Christ.

Vs. 5 *On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Vs. 6* *When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.*

- The 12 men were rebaptized into the baptism of Jesus.
- Vs. 6 is more of a depiction than it is a prescription.
- The Holy Spirit showed up in a tangible way.
 - **Vs. 6** *the Holy Spirit came on them*

Now is the time to act: Acts 22:16 *And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized, and wash your sins away, calling on His name.*

Questions for small groups:

1. Do you feel stuck in your walk with Jesus and if so, why do you think that is.
2. In verses 1-3, those that believed for salvation from sin did not automatically receive the Holy Spirit. Why do you think that was?
3. Vs. 6 says that the Holy Spirit *came upon them*. Has the Holy Spirit ever come upon you? What is that like?
4. Pastor Adam said that vs. 6 is meant to be a depiction rather than a prescription for all of us to follow in that exact manner. Why is it important to understand this?
5. Do you want to see more of the Holy Spirit's power and direction in your life? What can you do to open yourself up to that?