

# 2024 - Family Devo

## Aug 25 - a



### READ: Acts 19:1-10

**Main Idea:** Paul travels back to Ephesus and finds some disciples. Checking with them to see if they have received the Holy Spirit (miraculous gifts) he finds out that not only have they not heard of The Spirit, but they haven't been baptized into Christ either. Even though they had received John the Baptist's baptism of repentance, they are now baptized again, this time into Christ. Then Paul lays his hands on them and they receive miraculous gifts of speaking in tongues and prophesying.

### DISCUSS

**Children:** What a wonderful day that must have been. They weren't doing anything wrong, they just hadn't been told the truth. You need to come to church and read your Bible and pray so that you can find the truth and have that discovering feeling the more you read and the more you know.

**Teen:** What was the difference in John's baptism and being baptized into Christ? Why is being baptized into Christ necessary?

**Adult:** For many of us, we only hear someone's religious ideas in a Bible class. If they are wrong, or have incomplete knowledge about a topic, what do you do? Not the generic "you" but "you – fill in your name here." Why is this a hard situation for us? Do you have a similar reaction in other settings, like workplace, and with other topics than religion? What can make us more willing to help someone's understanding? Do we need to have a relationship first, or can this be that first step to a relationship?

### PRAY

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### MEMORIZE

**Isaiah 26:3 (ESV)**  
**You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.**

# 2024 - Family Devo

## Aug 25 - b



### READ: Acts 19:11-20

**Main Idea:** God was doing amazing things in this passage. By Paul's hands God was doing miracles so that even handkerchiefs that had touched Paul were taken to the sick or possessed and they were made well. Then, seven sons of a Jewish high priest tried to cast out a demon. The demon said he knew Jesus and recognized Paul but didn't know (or fear) them and overpowered them all easily.

### DISCUSS

**Children:** This shows the power of the Christian message and the importance of faith in Jesus' name. It also warns about the dangers of invoking spiritual authority without genuine faith or relationship with God. The public confession and destruction of all magic shows the impact of the gospel on the believers' lives, leading them to abandon their old practices and publicly confess their new faith.

**Teen:** Miracles were being performed by Paul but by who's power? Who made it possible and deserves all the glory? The demon says "I recognize Jesus," so he obviously believes he knows Jesus. So, is believing enough to be saved? Why or why not?

**Adult:** Why do you think Jews who apparently didn't believe, used Jesus' name to attempt miracles, in this case drive out evil spirits? Were they looking for honor for themselves, and were they willing to use anything to make it happen? Was there something else in the mix? Do you know people who only rely on God in the bad times; who promptly turn their back when the bad thing is resolved? What causes this attitude and how can we fight it?

### PRAY

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