

2024 - Family Devo

Sep 1 - a



READ: Acts 19:21-27

Main Idea: A silversmith in Ephesus is upset at what Paul is preaching about how gods (idols) who are made with hands don't represent "real" gods at all. This message undermined their false religion, and maybe more importantly, their business earnings of idol making.

DISCUSS

Children: Was the silversmith mad because of Paul's preaching against idols? Or because that's what his job was? Think about where your parents or grand parents work. What would happen if one day what they do is suddenly illegal. How are they going to make enough money to pay bills?

Teen: Do people like their beliefs to be challenged? What are some things we can do to keep the conversation open even when disagreeing? Will greed and the love of money lead to bad decisions? Jesus says you can't have two masters (Matt 6:24). Is this an example of loving money more than God? Why or why not? Now do you guard against putting the material things above God?

Adult: Ah, loss of income can motivate people to actions they might not otherwise take. What irony is there that Demetrius and the others didn't trust the goddess to defend herself? Did you notice that he mentions their trade first then says the temple might be as nothing? Where is his motivation? Compare this to what Gamaliel said in Acts 5 about not being able to stop the apostles if they were indeed from God.

PRAY

MEMORIZE

Matthew 5:16 (ESV)
In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

2024 - Family Devo

Sep 1 - b



READ: Acts 19:28-41

Main Idea: The silversmith Demetrius gets a crowd in Ephesus in such an uproar about Paul's preaching and its threat to their idolatry that they chant "great is Artemis of the Ephesians," for two hours. Paul wants to go to where the crowd is, but his fellow Christians talk him into waiting. The town clerk finally quiets the crowd and reminds Demetrius of the legal ways they can file complaints and settle their issues through the local government.

DISCUSS

Children: Have you ever sat down – for TWO hours and said the same thing over and over? What do you think they meant to accomplish? If you disagree with your parents and sit on your bed and say I DON'T WANT TO! Is that really going to change what they said? Paul wanted to go but his friends knew it would be safer for him if he didn't.

Teen: Is it easy to stir up a crowd? Is it easy to be the one to go against the crowd, standing alone and being set apart? What are some things that help you stand strong in your beliefs, keeping your actions godly even when the crowd is against what you believe?

Adult: Emotions. How quickly they can get out of hand. Have you ever seen where high emotions on both sides might erupt into something more? Maybe not a huge crowd but a few with strong passions? What examples can you think of? A parent losing control at a tournament comes to mind. What techniques do you use to help you think first and act in a calm, reasoned manner? Do you find it amazing that one man's voice dispersed the crowd? How often can one person with cool emotions avoid conflict?

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