

Bible Study on CONNECT in ACTS — Acts 19:1-10 For Sunday October 9, 2022

Acts 19:1-10 (ESV)

Paul in Ephesus

19 And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. ² And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³ And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." ⁴ And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. ⁷ There were about twelve men in all. ⁸ And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. ⁹ But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰ This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.

1. When was a time that the Holy Spirit was clearly working within you?

2. Verse 1 says that Paul found some disciples. They clearly had not yet heard of Jesus the Messiah, so whose disciples were they? In verse 3, whose baptism were they baptized into?

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3. What is the difference between John's baptism and Jesus' baptism? What did they receive with Jesus' baptism and when Paul laid his hands on them?

4. In verse 6, what happened after the twelve in Ephesus received the Holy Spirit?

5. Those that received the Holy Spirit started speaking in tongues and prophesying as a demonstration and verification of receiving the Holy Spirit. How does this compare to the events at Pentecost in Acts 2?

6. In verse 10, what were the effects of Paul staying in the area for two years? How was such a big region reached with the Gospel in such a short amount of time?

7. Paul is concerned with the Spirit's powerful work both in the lives of individuals and out in the wider community. What difference would it make in your life or your community if the Holy Spirit was missing?