ACTS EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, January 14, 2024 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 44 | Faith, Not Formula

Acts 19:11-20

It's GOD'S POWER (v. 11-12)

not Paul (not us) Psalm 115:1; Zechariah 4:6

through Paul (through us) Ephesians 3:20; 2 Pet. 1:3; Colossians 1:29

not a magic **FORMULA** (v. 13-17)

God cannot be manipulated Romans 11:33-36; Acts 8:18-22ff

power in Jesus's name Philippians 2:9-11; Acts 4:12

that brings **CHANGE**. (v. 18-20)

confession 1 John 1:9; Proverbs 28:13

repentance 2 Timothy 2:19-22; Psalm 119:128; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Psalm 130:4



Have you had some Gospel Conversations? Tell us about it! Text "CONVERSATION" to 833-271-8805, then follow the prompts.

You can also text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, "Pray for..." followed by your request.



Part of our Enduring **Reach** vision is:

By 2030 the people of Wawasee Bible will engage in 10,000 Gospel Conversations

So what *is* a "Gospel Conversation"?

First of all, by 10,000 we do not mean 10,000 people, but *conversations*.

A Gospel Conversation is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with someone in need of knowing of his love and grace.

A conversation that points to Jesus as the hero and gives testimony to his grace, as well as our own need for it, counts as a Gospel Conversation.

Here's three (of many!) types of Gospel Conversations:

- 1. I share with someone what Jesus is doing in my life today. Maybe something good, maybe bringing me through a hard time, maybe a point from Sunday's message that hit me, etc.
- 2. I share with someone my story of putting my faith in Christ.
- 3. I share the truth of the Gospel, and encourage them to believe it themself.

**We are sent ** to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us

Remember the key is to love. We're loved by Jesus, and so we're sent by Jesus to love others and invite them to follow him with us.

We'll share more soon, including some ideas to help you spark Gospel Conversations with the people God has sent you to!



life Study Guide **Questions & Scripture for Further Study**

What is this? - Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & ive life together. We call them Life Groups. The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

Welcome to Life Group!

Getting to Know You

Part of our goal at Life Group is just learning more about each other. Toward that end, here's two totally random questions to discuss and break the ice as you get going. Have everyone answer at least one:

- 1. What was your biggest childhood fear? (Clowns? Being lost? Monsters? The dark?)
- 2. What's your favorite candy?

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Digging Deeper

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week.

In our passage this week, v. 17 says that after people heard about what happened to the sons of Sceva, "fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled." Often events like this cause fear, which for some lead to faith in Christ (a true fear of/reverence for the Lord). This week let's explore fear a bit as it relates to our lives, our faith, and God.

- 1. Reflecting back to an earlier story in the book of Acts, Ananias and Sapphira made fatal decisions that were rooted in their fear of the wrong source. **Read Acts 5:1-11** and make note of the different sources of fear.?
 - As you read Acts 5:1-11, note three groups of people (Ananias and Sapphira, the Church at large, and Peter). In the chart below, indicate what they feared and what the result of their fear was.

People	Source of their fear: God or Man?	Result
Ananias & Sapphira		
The Church		
Peter		

 Reflecting on Ananias and Sapphira's story, why do you think caring about how others see us plays such a major role in our decision making?

(Study Guide continues on back panel...)

Welcome to Wawasee!

OUR This is who we hope you grow **OUTCOMES** to become at Wawasee Bible...

If I'm truly growing as a follower of Jesus, I should be growing in the ways that I am...



Receiving





Receiving

Going to those

Am I reading the Word regularly? When am I gathering to hear the

How am I talking to and listening to God regularly? What are some

How and where am I contributing to and initiating community with **Toward Others.** other Christians in our church? (Or am I only consuming?)

shared God's story and/or my faith story? Who is on my PEARL list?

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find for Acts 19:18-20 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

¹⁸ Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. 19 And a number of those who had practiced

magic arts **brought** their books together and **burned** them in the **sight** of all. And they **counted** the **value** of them and found it came to **fifty thousand** pieces of silver. 20 So the word of the Lord continued to **increase** and prevail mightily.

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Study Guide (continued)

- What impact did the power of God have on the fear of God in the Church?
- Can you think of a time when your fear of God increased because of someone else's misfortune?
- Peter was no stranger to denying God. His fear of approval from people, caused him to deny he knew Jesus on three separate occasions. How might Peter's own personal denials of Jesus have influenced his response to Ananias and Sapphira (see John 18:15-18, 25-27)?
- Can you think of any ways the fear of God has equipped you, changed you, or helped you?
- 2. True faith is not just about trusting God with our eternity, but giving God our tomorrow. In other words it's not just about the distant future, but the near present! In the verses listed, make note of anything pointing us toward a daily trust and obedience in God.

James 1:22-25

Luke 9:23-24

Psalm 128:1

- As you look at the three verses above, what three phrases are most helpful for you to be able to live for tomorrow and not just eternity?
- The people of Ephesus realized the power of God and brought their old way of life (scrolls of sorcery) out and burned it. Can you think of any place in your life where you struggle with the "old you" because you are viewing God like a cosmic consultant or magic genie (i.e. a relationship, how you view money, anger, lust, pride, tone of voice, power)?
- 3. The enemy would love to use fear to keep us from moving toward God. How does Romans 5:1-5 help us remain confident and experience God's love and grace?

Close

As you close, take time to pray for each other. Consider **dividing into separate groups of men and women** as you pray for one another.

> Some parts of this week's Study Guide are adapted from a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs.

Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

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ACTS

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ACTS 19:11-20



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Scan QR code for our **Digital Announcements & Connect Card.**

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