

Part 45 | **Good News, Real Change**

Acts 19:21-41

We're **SENT** out with *good* news (v. 21-22)

 **for each other** 2 Timothy 2:8-13

 **for those far from God** Matthew 28:19-20

that truly **CHANGES** lives (v. 23-34)

“if you're faith hasn't changed you, has it really saved you?” James 2:14-26; 2 Corinthians 5:17ff

meaningful change requires some discipline (habits) 1 Timothy 4:7; 1 John 2:6

and must be known by **WHO** we're for,
not what we're **AGAINST**. (v. 35-41)

which, if either, are you known for? John 13:35; Acts 4:13

It's All About Jesus! Colossians 1:15-23

Spiritual Habits (to help you *change*)

Spiritual Habits (or disciplines) are practices that Christians have incorporated into their lives for millennia to help them change and grow in Christlikeness. Below is a list of just a few Spiritual Habits...

Solitude/Quiet Time: Voluntary withdrawal from the bustle of life to experience heightened communion with God usually through the Scripture and prayer.

Word: The refocusing of heart and mind through gaining God's perspective through Scripture. There are multiple avenues for biblical intake: Bible Reading, Studying Scripture, Meditating on Scripture, Memorizing Scripture.

Prayer: Taking focused time to express ourselves to God in praise, thanksgiving, and petition and to listen to God. This discipline can be practiced privately or corporately.

Abstinence: Voluntarily refraining from a good activity for a limited duration for the sake of a spiritual purpose. There are many forms that this practice might take, but some common practices are: Fasting, Vigil (refraining from sleep), staying off Social Media, Chastity (refraining from legitimate sexual relations), Silence, etc.

Worship: Making it a priority to honor God thru adoration & obedience (privately or corporately).

Witness: Intentionally striving to share the Gospel and God's perspective thru word and deed.

Confession: Acknowledging my sinful shortcomings to God and to other believers. This can also be a process of intentional exploration of one's life past and present for hurtful ways.

Service: Intentionally seeking out ways to serve others in the church and society.

Sabbath: Stopping for one day a week to focus on worshiping God, restorative rest and play.

Journaling: Recording our insights from God daily increasing long-term reflection on God's work in our life.

Visit wawaseebible.com/habits for some resources to help you.



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, & live 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 first job?
2. Have you ever purchased something you saw on an infomercial?

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.

1. Jesus is our ultimate example of how to live. Below are a number of situations Jesus encountered where he had to make a choice as to how to respond. As you read the passages, write down the choice he made, the attitude or action he portrayed, and/or any challenges or opposition he encountered (from others or possibly even within himself).

Passage	Choice	Attitude/Action	Challenge/Opposition
Mark 1:35-39			
Mark 1:40-45			
Matthew 14:13-21			
John 8:1-17			
John 13:1-17			

- Looking at your notes above, is there one trait or response that's harder or more uncomfortable for you to live out than the others? If so, explain.
- What habits in Jesus's life may have helped him develop the ability to make those decisions in the moment?

(Study Guide continues on back panel...)

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

Welcome to Wawasee!

OUR OUTCOMES

This is who we hope you grow 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...



1 | Receiving From God.

Am I reading the Word regularly? When am I gathering to hear the Word taught? What fruit of the Spirit do I see growing in my life?



2 | Responding To God.

How am I talking to and listening to God regularly? What are some healthy spiritual habits I'm working on (things like giving, scripture memory, repentance, rest, etc.)?



3 | Receiving From Others.

Where and how am I in community/friendship with other Christians in our church who have a window to speak into my life?



4 | Moving Toward Others.

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



5 | Going to those Far from God.

How am I regularly going toward those who are far from God—loving them, sharing God's Story and my own story? When was the last time I 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 James 2:14-18 (NIRV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

14 My **brothers** and **sisters**, what **good** is it if **people claim** they have **faith** but don't act **like it**? Can that **kind of faith** save them? 15 **Suppose** a **brother** or **sister** has no **clothes** or **food**. 16 **Suppose** one of you says to them, "Go. I **hope everything turns out fine** for you. **Keep warm**. Eat **well**." And you do **nothing** about what they **really need**. Then what **good** have you **done**? 17 It is the **same** with **faith**. If it doesn't **cause** us to do **something, it's dead**. 18 But someone will say, "You have **faith**. I do **good works**." **Show** me your **faith** that doesn't do **good works**. And I will **show** you my **faith** by what I do.

O O A U A K I N D W C K
L H C ' M B T I D O N E
C L A I M R ' T U R N S
B S U P P O S E C K O A
F M S I S T E R L S T V
K E E P O H E S O F H E
F F P T M E T C T A I H
I O E V E R Y T H I N G
N O O E T E B H E T G A
E D P W H A L E S H O W
E O L E I L S N F O O A
D I E L N L I K E P D R
M F H L G Y S A M E I M

life groups Study Guide (continued)

- One key spiritual habit is worship, which requires us to look at God, recognize who he is, and respond accordingly. The more we do this, and the bigger God is to us—the more we feel we can trust him to meet our needs and to protect us, and the easier it is to respond in a way that makes Jesus look good. **Let's practice looking at God.** As you read the descriptions of God listed below, write down what each one says about how big God is and then on a scale of 1-to-5 (5 being highest) rate how well it fits into your current perception of God.

Passage	What's it say about how big God is?	My Current Perception
Jeremiah 10:10		1 2 3 4 5
Psalms 25:8		1 2 3 4 5
Psalms 86:5		1 2 3 4 5
Psalms 116:5		1 2 3 4 5

- Is there one passage or principle that is more important than the others for you to remember?

- At times we might not be motivated or even have a bad attitude about responding as we're called to do. How can **Matthew 26:36-39** help when we find ourselves in this kind of situation?

Close

- What's one or two Spiritual Habits you want to adopt into your own life this year? (Visit wawaseebible.com/habits for some resources to help you.)

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.

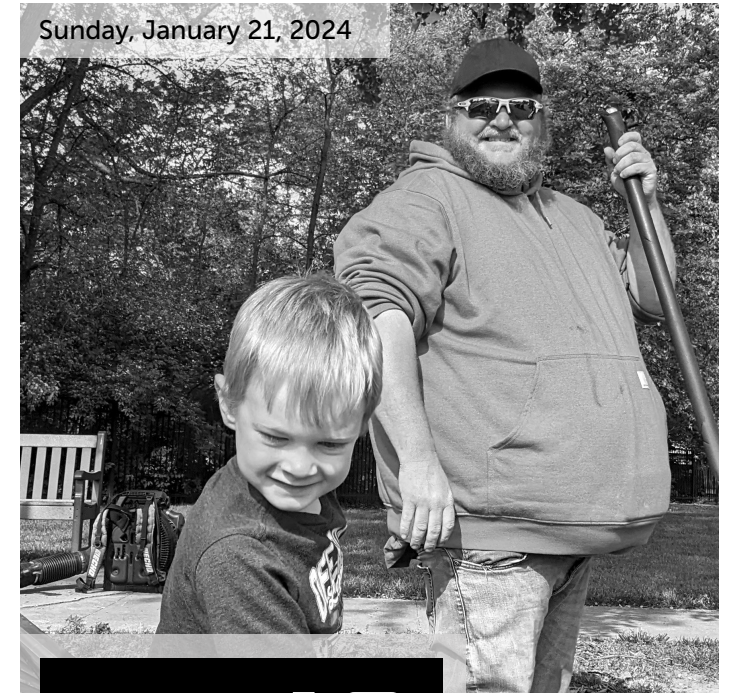
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ACTS

EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

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PART 45

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Real Change

ACTS 19:21-41



We're Glad You're Here Today!

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<https://wawasee.today>