

WE ARE ALL
WITNESSES
THE BOOK OF ACTS

A Tale of Two Clothes

Pastor Tommy Creutz | Acts 19:11–20

ICE BREAKER:

If you could have one miraculous superpower for a day, what would it be—and what would you do with it?

UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT:

People have a long history of worshipping false gods or trying to merge them with the One True Triune God. Read Deuteronomy 32:17-18. What causes people to worship other gods or trust in other powers?

Read Acts 8:9-25. How is the story of Simon similar to or different from the encounter in Acts 19:11-20? How do these events both underscore 'the word of the Lord'?

CONNECTING TO JESUS AND HIS GOSPEL:

Read Mark 1:23–27. In this passage, the demon obeys Jesus immediately because it recognizes His authority. In Acts 19, the demon overpowers those who only invoke Jesus' name without knowing Him. Do you know Jesus personally as the one who rescued you by His death and resurrection, or are you just using His name without submitting to His Lordship?

LIVING OUT THE TRUTH:

How can we treat God like a ritual or a level up for a power source? Would you describe your relationship with God as transactional or relational? Do you value God's gifts over God Himself? Why is this difference sometimes subtle, but always so important?

ACCOUNTABILITY:

Is there an area of your life where you have allowed compromise outside of what God calls us to in His Word? Will you take a step of faith this week to trust God and leave it behind like the people in Ephesus? Name what needs to be left behind and write down how you can rely on God's strength instead this week.

Brainstorm ways to rely on God's strength as a group.

PARENTING:

How can you model relying on God's strength with your kids? Pick one activity you do together this week and be intentional to model this (through prayer, pointing to scripture, etc) and explain why this is important.

FURTHER STUDY:

Rejoice and Tremble: The Surprising Good News of the Fear of the Lord (M. Reeves)

Safe and Sound: Standing Firm in Spiritual Battles (D. Powlison)

Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices (T. Brooks)