

Title: Back in Ephesus

Passage: Acts 18:24-19:20

Date: 1/19/25

The Trailhead:

What is something in your life, such as a skill or hobby, that you did not fully understand but when it clicked it became exciting to you? (such as learning how to drive, fish, play a sport etc.)

Discussion:

v.24-28

What impact does Priscilla and Aquila's graceful handling of Apollos have on the growth of his ministry and of the early church? What is a situation in your life where you could choose grace and build a brother or sister up instead of rebuking them? What impact might that have? How do Priscilla and Aquila balance that grace with truth, and what effect do we see that have on Apollos' ministry? What is your natural response to this situation?

v.19:1-7

What is the key difference between the Baptism of John and the Baptism of Jesus? Were these "disciples" truly saved when Paul met them? What were these disciples missing? What purpose do the sign gifts play in their conversion experience? What role does repentance play in this early Christian culture, and how was that balance off? Has there been a shift in that balance in our own culture?

v.11-20

Why is small group discipleship so important to the Christian walk, and how is that highlighted by this passage? How does Paul demonstrate the difference between evangelism and discipleship? Discuss how God uses miraculous signs and exorcism to prove the authenticity of the Gospel. Is this effective? How can we tell if conversion is authentic in this passage and in the lives of those around us?