

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Paul in Ephesus

WHAT YOU NEED

1

- 3 messy items in 3 bowls (e.g. water-based paint, chocolate syrup, crushed biscuits/cereal, mud - *please use whatever you have around your home*)
- 1 bowl big enough to fit your hand into, filled with water
- Hand towel/cloth
- Object Lesson Sheet

LET'S READ THE BIBLE

2

Have someone in your family read the following passage:

- Acts 19:11-20

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

- What can we learn from what the evil spirit said? (*That Satan knows who belongs to Jesus and that Jesus is powerful*)
- Why did the people start burning their books?
- Have you ever stopped doing something because it was wrong, or it could hurt you or someone else?

3

Paul stayed in Ephesus for two years and the Bible says that everyone in Asia heard the message about Jesus.

Some unbelieving Jews decided to get in on the action and use the name of Jesus to cast out demons. There were seven sons of a Jewish leader, named Sceva. As they attempted to cast out an evil spirit in a man, the evil spirit said, "I know Jesus. I've heard about Paul. But who are you?" And the man with the evil spirit attacked the seven brothers and left them wounded and naked.

Because of this incident, the people feared the Lord and Jesus was glorified.

Many people who believed in Jesus began to tell about and confess their wrong ways of living. In fact, many of those who practiced witchcraft and magic gathered all of their spell books and made bonfires in the streets of the town.

The burning of these books was a HUGE deal! At that time books had to be copied by hand and they were very expensive. The Bible says that everything that was burned was worth 50,000 pieces of silver. That was a lot of money.

The people of Ephesus began to confess their sins and they got rid of all of the "stuff" that was

NOW WHAT?

Is there something you need to stop doing because it does not please God? (*Lead a discussion about activities that might be ok by the world's standards, but not ok by God's. For example - watching violent movies or video games, teasing children who look or act differently, spending too much time on other things that we are not reading our Bibles and praying, etc.*)

5

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN

- Set up your three bowls with messy items and bowl of water in an area that can get dirty
- Have your hand towels/cloth nearby
- Follow the instructions on the "Object Lesson Sheet"

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