

DESTROYER OF THE GODS

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ACTS 19:11-38

Introduction

1. You can use the _____ of Jesus, but not have the _____ of Jesus. (vv. 11-16)

2. Jesus is putting the _____ out of _____ (vv. 17 - 28)

3. Jesus is the _____ of the _____ (vv. 29-38)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

- 1 . When you hear of false gods, idol statues, evil spirits and demonic powers do those seem like live realities to you today, or irrelevant relics of a bygone era? Why or why not?
- 2 . Read Acts 19:11-16. Why are the sons of Sceva unable to do what Paul is able to do? How do people today sometimes use Jesus as a “good luck” charm, without really submitting to Jesus? Are there ways that you’re ever tempted to do this in life?
- 3 . If you have a mouse problem, what is a better solution than sweeping it out with a broom? What does this illustration represent for how we can approach dark powers as followers of Jesus? Which tends to be your approach: the “broom” or the alternative? (You can be honest.)
- 4 . Read vv. 17 - 20. How do those confessing see their valuable things (“50,000 drachmas”) in relation to Jesus? Why do you think that is? When you see how valuable and worthy Jesus is, what does it do to your heart? Have you ever had to give up something valuable in order to live faithfully to Jesus?
- 5 . Read vv. 23-28. Why do Demetrius and the craftsmen feel threatened? How was religion intertwined with economics in the ancient world? Do you see ways today that economics and spirituality are still intertwined in our culture? As Christians, how is economics to be intertwined in our life with God?
- 6 . Read Acts 19:29-38. Why do the Ephesians riot? What do they (rightly) fear is threatened? The Christian revolution is turning the world upside down, yet who is being violent and who is being peaceful in this scene? What do you think this means for our posture as Christians and how we are to live when facing hostile opposition?
- 7 . Jesus turns the world upside-down by “destroying the gods,” but he also does so in an upside-down way. How is Jesus’ heroic work on the cross different from—even opposite to—the way of Kratos and other victorious heroes in history? Which type of hero do you find more compelling to give your life to, and why?
- 8 . Jesus not only changes individual lives but disrupts society—through the revolutionary ripple effects of his work in us. How do you think God might want to “disrupt” our region through Christ Community Church? (Feel free to dream big.) What might it look like for the seeds of that work to begin in you?

PRAYER PROMPT: Reflect more on the idea of “disruption” from question 8. Make a list of ways that God might want to disrupt your region, your neighborhood, even your life. Spend time praying through the list that Jesus would topple any false gods and be King in each area.