

Acts 19 “Jesus and The Spirit”
Acts 18:24 - 19:7
Feb 22, 2026

Acts 18:25-28

24 Now a Jew named Apollos, a native Alexandrian, an eloquent man who was competent in the use of the Scriptures, arrived in Ephesus. 25 He had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately about Jesus, although he knew only John’s baptism. 26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. After Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained the way of God to him more accurately. 27 When he wanted to cross over to Achaia, the brothers and sisters wrote to the disciples to welcome him. After he arrived, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. 28 For he vigorously refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating through the Scriptures that Jesus is the Messiah.

Acts 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior regions and came to Ephesus. He found some disciples 2 and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

“No,” they told him, “we haven’t even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

3 “Into what then were you baptized?” he asked them.

“Into John’s baptism,” they replied.

4 Paul said, “John baptized with a baptism of repentance, telling the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Jesus.”

5 When they heard this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began to speak in tongues[a] and to prophesy. 7 Now there were about twelve men in all.

John’s baptism was one of getting ready.

Jesus’ baptism was one of receiving.

Romans 6:3-5. Or are you unaware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united with him in the likeness of his death, we will certainly also be in the likeness of his resurrection.

Belief in Jesus and the Holy Spirit come into our lives together.

Romans 8:9-11. 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 You, however, are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to him. 10 Now if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. 11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, then he who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through his Spirit who lives in you.

The Holy Spirit is the bond by which Christ effectually unites us to himself.

Ephesians 4:4-6. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope at your calling— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 In him you also were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and when you believed. 14 The Holy Spirit is the down payment of our inheritance, until the redemption of the possession, to the praise of his glory.

Truth, down payment, inheritance and redemption.

Romans 5:5. 5 This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

John 17:23. I am in them and you are in me, so that they may be made completely one, that the world may know you have sent me and have loved them as you have loved me.

When we believe, we are born again, and when we believe, we belong.

Life Group Discussion Questions

- 1.) What did God say to you through His Word during our Sunday gathering?
- 2.) Have you ever been late hearing important news? Share a moment when you were the last to know something?
- 3.) In Acts 19, Paul share news missed about Jesus with the twelve men. They believe and receive the Holy Spirit. What encouragement is to know that if you believe in Jesus, you have also received the Spirit?
- 4.) Read Ephesians 1:13-14. What are some of the activities of the Holy Spirit? What does it mean for the Spirit to be a down payment or a guarantor? How can the Holy Spirit help us experience right now what is coming fully in the future?
- 5.) Read Romans 5:5. What does God want you know to through the Spirit? Why is this so important?
- 6.) Do think there is a modern way of "only knowing John's baptism," a way in which we hope to know God or be spiritual without a belief centered on Jesus?
- 7.) Consider how your Life Group can be an encouragement to one another this week.