



## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of March 15, 2026

### **Acts 19:21-41**

**21** Now after these events Paul resolved in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem, saying, “After I have been there, I must also see Rome.” **22** And having sent into Macedonia two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a while. **23** About that time there arose no little disturbance concerning the Way. **24** For a man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no little business to the craftsmen. **25** These he gathered together, with the workmen in similar trades, and said, “Men, you know that from this business we have our wealth. **26** And you see and hear that not only in Ephesus but in almost all of Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away a great many people, saying that gods made with hands are not gods. **27** And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her magnificence, she whom all Asia and the world worship.” **28** When they heard this they were enraged and were crying out, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” **29** So the city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul’s companions in travel. **30** But when Paul wished to go in among the crowd, the disciples would not let him. **31** And even some of the Asiarchs, who were friends of his, sent to him and were urging him not to venture into the theater. **32** Now some cried out one thing, some another, for the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together. **[33]** Some of the crowd prompted Alexander, whom the Jews had put forward. And Alexander, motioning with his hand, wanted to make a defense to the crowd. **34** But when they recognized that he was a Jew, for about two hours they all cried out with one voice, “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” **35** And when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he said, “Men of Ephesus, who is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great Artemis, and of the sacred stone that fell from the sky? **36** Seeing then that these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rash. **37** For you have brought these men here who are neither sacrilegious nor blasphemers of our goddess. **38** If therefore Demetrius and the craftsmen with him have a complaint against anyone, the courts are open, and there are proconsuls. Let them bring charges against one another. **[39]** But if you seek anything further, it shall be settled in the regular assembly. **40** For we really are in danger of being charged with rioting today, since there is no cause that we can give to justify this commotion.” **41** And when he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly.

1. CT Studd’s quote “Only one life t’will soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last” exemplifies the life of Paul. Do you agree with CT Studd’s quote? If so, how are you living it out? If not, why not? How do you think Christians can grow in living a life completely dedicated to the proclamation of Jesus Christ and the growth of His church?

2. What do you think instigates and fuels a mob mentality resulting in riot behavior? How do you think Christians should respond to such behavior?
3. The Bible says that God is love and that He is rich in mercy. Jesus is called the Prince of peace, full of grace and truth. The gospel is the “good news” that gives humanity hope because Jesus died for our sins and rose again from the dead. Considering all of the above, Christianity truly presents a beautiful picture of what life can and should be. Why then do you think Christians, starting with the 12 apostles have been persecuted all over the world for the past 2,000 years?
4. How is materialism like a religion? What is its god and who are its worshipers? What represent ‘acts of worship’ in this religion? Under what circumstances can Christians find themselves worshipping at the altar of materialism?
5. When the world goes crazy around us and people hate you for proclaiming the name of Jesus, what does the Bible teach us about how Christians should respond? How can we find peace in the midst of the chaos and suffering? If we find this difficult to do, how can we grow in this?
6. In our passage this week, the riot against Paul and his friends ends without any of them hurt or having to do anything. We are reminded that God is in control of even the most chaotic life threatening situations. How do you think these experiences impacted Paul’s life? Now consider your own life. What are you learning through the experiences God has allowed you to endure?