1. Intro:
   1.1. Communion:
   1.2. Prisoner Alert – Kim Kyung from China.
   1.3. Questions: The Boston Globe, which carries a daily column designed to answer reader’s queries, listed the top 10 unanswerable questions. Here’s one: “I am 9 years of age and have a cat that eats regularly, and needs to go on a diet. He also eats mice when he is out. How many calories in a mouse?”
   1.3.1. Some questions are difficult to answer, but some are difficult to know to ask.
   1.4. Both Eternal life & our life here on earth come down to having the right answers. But most often people just don’t know what questions to ask!!!
   1.4.1. Let me help with 5 Questions this morning from Acts 19:1-20.
   1.4.2. What Baptism did you receive? What Training did you receive? What Gift did you receive? What Jesus did you receive? What Freedom did you receive?
   1.5. Theme taken from vs.3 NIV “Then what baptism did you receive?”
   1.6. 1 Jn.3:22 whatever we ask we receive from Him!!!

2. WHAT DID YOU RECEIVE? (1-20)
   2.1. [1] WHAT BAPTISM DID YOU RECEIVE? (1-7)
   2.2. Ephesus is in “Asia” which Paul was previously forbidden…now right timing.
   2.2.1. Quick Stats: 4th largest city in Roman Empire; population ¼ million; elegant architecture; was one of the 7 Wonders of the world; & a principle center for magic for the ancient world (Magic, defined as, any process by which human beings become able to manipulate supernatural power for their own ends). Peter Wagner
   2.3. Ephesus was known as the premier fetish factory of the Roman Empire.
   2.3.1. Fetish = not obsession over something, but a magical object [rabbits foot]
   2.4. Ephesus was known for its “Ephesian Writings”, i.e. documents containing spells & formula to be placed in small cylinders or lockets worn about the neck or elsewhere about the person. [known in animistic cultures as fetishes]
   2.4.1. It was engraved on the image of Artemis/Diana’s crown, girdle, & feet
   2.4.2. This magical gibberish was considered to have great power.
2.5. (2) Or, “we have not so much as heard whether the H.S. has been given,” (NIV)
2.5.1. Jn.1:33 He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’

2.6. John’s baptism – thus John’s disciples. (Or some say Apollos’; see 18:25)

2.7. In the name of – was the issue.
2.7.1. John’s baptism – was in the name of repentance, awaiting Messiah.
2.7.2. Jesus’ baptism – in the name of the Lord Jesus. (a.k.a. believers baptism)
2.7.2.1. Ps: Our next baptism is up at the Robles, Sun August 10th.

2.8. Some can get their theology twisted into such a Gordian Knot, on the order & timing of these baptisms. [Prophecy: next leader of Asia would untie the knot. Alex the Great wiped out sword & cut it in half]
2.8.1. Instead of untied it, I’d rather pull out my sword this morning & ask, “do you have all of these covered?”
2.8.2. What baptism did you receive? - Make sure you’ve received all that God has to offer you.
2.8.3. Luke 11:13 (context: teach us to pray; then persistence; then ask/seek/knock)

2.9. Million $ question: Are you living today as if Pentecost had never taken place???

2.10. [2] WHAT TRAINING DID YOU RECEIVE? (8-10)
2.11. 3 months in synagogue; then 2 years in Tyrannus school daily at lunch break.
2.11.1. Interesting Paul demonstrates flexibility of method & rents a lecture hall of a pagan teacher.
2.11.2. Western text of the Greek NT tells us that Paul “taught from the 5th to the 10th hour” (or from 11am to 4pm every day)

2.12. The Ephesians kept a strict siesta.
2.12.1. William Ramsey says, “Public life in the Ionian cities ended regularly at he 5th hour(11am)”
2.12.2. One historian reportedly commented “that more people in Ephesus were asleep at 1pm than at 1am.”

2.13. Here is the clearest example of formalized leadership training in the NT.
2.13.1. Obviously different from ordinary teaching in house churches, or even teaching in the synagogues.
2.13.2. These men would give up their lunch/nap time in order to train.
2.13.3. Paul wrote 1 Cor. while he was here.

2.15. **[3] WHAT GIFT DID YOU RECEIVE?** (11-12)
2.16. Handkerchiefs – sweat rags, cloths worn around the head & used to wipe sweat off.
2.17. Apron – worn by working men.
   2.17.1. Yet, God adopted them as His tools to change lives.
2.18. Read 1 Cor.12:1-7,11. [other list: Rom.12:6-8]
2.19. **[4] WHAT JESUS DID YOU RECEIVE?** (13-17)
2.20. A Jesus you’ve heard of before; or The Jesus you know personally/intimately?
2.21. Be careful of the 2nd hand Jesus!
2.22. If I watch a lot of medical shows on television (like ER) I can say I know a lot about subdural hematomas, defibrillators, and different med’s.
   2.22.1. Well, I don’t really know about them. But I have this 2nd hand knowledge about life in a hospital.
2.23. I have 2nd hand knowledge about what the White House because I have watched many episodes of West Wing.
2.24. I have 2nd hand knowledge about the military, because I talk to people who serve in the military.
2.25. 2nd hand knowledge is good, it’s helpful, it’s interesting – but it is no substitute for 1st hand knowledge and experience!
2.26. In the name of – was the issue here also.
   2.26.1. Jn.14:14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.
   2.26.2. Mark 16:17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons.
   2.26.3. Examples: Ambassadors do not go to other countries in their own names; they go in the name of the president of the U.S.
      2.26.3.1. And only those designated by the president can use his name effectively.
      2.26.3.2. If I went to a foreign country & announced that I had come in the name of the president of the U.S., they would laugh at me.
      2.26.3.3. That’s exactly what happened here to the sons of Sceva.
2.27. The name of Jesus is no magic formula like the “Ephesian Writings”.
2.28. 7 sons of Sceva – fake exorcists who claimed to be sons of Sceva, (whom they declared to be high priest) (no such priest never existed, according to best records)
   2.28.1. They had no formula, no talisman, no rabbit foot, except a stolen one!
2.29. Jesus had not authorized the 7 sons of Sceva to use His name, & therefore the power was absent.
   2.29.1. In the end times some will come to Jesus & say, “have we not cast our demons in Your name” & He will respond, “I never knew you!”

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1 LKGNT; pg.313
2.30. They bypassed the Lord’s authentic power & imitated Paul’s method’s.
2.30.1. But note, even demons know a cheap substitute!!!

2.31. So because the used the Lord’s name in vain, the 7 sons opened themselves up to a ferocious spiritual backlash, that they would not soon forget.
2.31.1. Beaten up, stripped, & chased out of the house naked!

2.32. Spiritual warfare in Ephesus – Eph.6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.
2.32.1. That’s why the book of Ephesians contains a substantially higher concentration of warfare terminology than in any other epistle by Paul

2.33. [5] WHAT FREEDOM DID YOU RECEIVE? (18-20)
2.34. Book Burning? – To the tune of about $4 million today.
2.34.1. But isn’t this book burning thing so archaic?

2.35. Ok, let’s call it Emptying your closet? - What do you need to throw away? What do you need to walk away from? Who do you need to walk away from? Remove your sinful situation from you. Burn it on the bonfire of God’s altar!
2.35.1. They burned magic books. What do you have to destroy by fire?
2.35.2. Flush some pills? Cancel a pay channel on Cable? Find another job? Cut up some credit cards? Send someone else food shopping? Need to sell a car or collection that has now thoroughly engulfed your life?
2.35.3. I just heard this take place w/a brand new believer in our fellowship!

2.36. If you’re not sure what to burn…burn it all, cuz all that is eternal is fireproof! 😊
2.36.1. How freeing to release your worldly attachments, your worldly souvenirs, & your preoccupation with them.
2.36.2. The bonfire is painful & costly, but it is also freeing & gloriously life-changing!

2.37. End:
2.38. They bypassed the Lord’s authentic power & imitated Paul’s method’s.
2.38.1. Does this describe anyone’s spirituality today?
2.38.2. You’ve been trying to impersonate a Christian, but it doesn’t seem to be working. (You’re missing the power)

2.39. I might not be able to tell you how many calories in a mouse, but I can tell you the important questions: Which Jesus did you receive? What Freedoms did you receive from this relationship? What Gifts did you receive from Him? What Training are you receiving? Are you missing any Baptisms?