

WORD

And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul . . . ACTS 19:11

God wants to set people free from anything that hinders us from knowing and loving Him. The book of Acts records how many people were being healed and saved, and how the church was growing through the extraordinary power of the Holy Spirit. In this lesson, we will look at three things that were happening through ordinary people in the church at this time, and how this applies to our lives.

1 Ordinary People Performing Extraordinary Miracles

And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul . . . ACTS 19:11

The Apostle Paul was an ordinary man who did his normal everyday work, and God's Spirit was so evident in him that the materials he created from his work brought healing to people (Acts 19:12). We need to understand that the Holy Spirit empowers us to do extraordinary miracles as we preach the gospel. What does God promise us through His Holy Spirit? (Mark 16:17,18)

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2 Ordinary People with Amazing Authority

¹⁵But the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?" . . . ¹⁷And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled. ACTS 19:15,17

At the name of Jesus, even evil spirits submit. His name has amazing authority. As God's people, we can rely on His name and His power that is at work in our lives. What happened to the sons of Sceva who tried to wield their own authority against the evil spirit (Acts 19:14-16)?

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3 Ordinary People with Outstanding Devotion to God

¹⁸Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. . . . ²⁰And they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily. ACTS 19:18,20

The result of the miracles and freedom the church experienced through the power of the Holy Spirit was outstanding devotion to God. Many surrendered their lives to Christ and turned away from their evil practices. This resulted in more people coming to know God. How do you express your devotion to God on a daily basis? Share about your habit of daily Bible reading and prayer.

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APPLICATION

- Do you believe that God can do awesome miracles in and through you, even today? What miracle are you believing God for?
- How can you know and rely on the Holy Spirit more as each day passes? What's one thing you can start doing differently this week?
- How can you practice living a life of outstanding devotion to God? What's one thing you will start doing this week?

PRAYER

- Thank God for His power that is at work in your life. Pray for a deeper understanding of who God is and who you are in Him.
- Pray that you would always be devoted to God and you would love Him with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength.
- Ask God for opportunities to preach the gospel with signs and wonders. Believe God to work mightily through you in the coming days.



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