

GROUUPS

s e r m o n g u i d e

RIOTS & REVIVALS: 02/22/2026 - Marie Carlson

MAIN IDEA

BELIEF ISN'T THE DESTINATION — IT'S THE STARTING POINT

TALK ABOUT IT

- **ICEBREAKER:** What's something you enjoy watching but have never actually tried doing yourself? What would it take for you to move from watching to participating?
- What does Acts 19 reveal about the difference between believing in Jesus and following Jesus?
- Why do you think Paul shifted from synagogue preaching to daily discussions in the lecture hall (Acts 19:8–10)? What does that teach us about discipleship?
- Who currently knows you well enough to challenge, encourage, and correct you spiritually?
- What keeps people from committing to authentic faith community?
- How have you personally experienced growth through Christian community?
- What is the key difference between Paul and the seven sons of Sceva (Acts 19:11–16)?
- What does this story teach us about spiritual authority and connection to Jesus?
- Where might you be tempted to rely on someone else's faith instead of cultivating your own relationship with Christ?
- How does remembering that "our struggle is not against flesh and blood" (see Ephesians 6:12) reshape the way you approach conflict or hardship?
- Are you more fascinated by what Jesus can do, or surrendered to who He is? What's the difference?
- Why do you think the believers publicly burned their scrolls (Acts 19:17–20) instead of quietly getting rid of them?
- What "scrolls" — habits, mindsets, loyalties, or compromises — might God be asking you to surrender?
- Why is it often easier to add Jesus to our lives than to remove competing influences?
- How do James 2:17 and Gospel of John 14:15 challenge a faith that never changes behavior?
- If belief is only the starting point, what is your next step toward deeper surrender, connection, or obedience?

KEY SCRIPTURES

ACTS 19:8-20

NEXT STEPS

- **ENCOUNTER:**
 - Join us during one of Sunday Worship Services: 8:30am, 10am (Spanish translation available) & 11:30am
- **EXPERIENCE:**
 - **Date Night** - February 27th (Childcare is available)
 - 5:00–6:00 PM | Community & Connection
 - Come as early as you can to enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and time to connect with other couples.
 - 6:00–7:00 PM | Les & Leslie Parrot - Marriage content is designed to help you invest in each other.
 - 7:00–8:00 PM | Gym Comedy Hour with dessert and drinks.
 - Price \$40 - Register [HERE](#)
- **EXPAND**
 - Ready to start serving? Contact Jill Thayer at jillt@sagehillschurch.com or fill out our join a Dream Team [FORM](#)

GOING DEEPER

- When you look at your current spiritual life, where do you sense movement — and where do you sense stagnation?
- Write about a moment in your life when your faith required more than agreement — it required surrender. What changed in you? What did it cost? What did it produce? Then reflect: Is there an area right now where God may be inviting you into that kind of deeper trust again?
- What is one tangible action you can take this week that would move your faith from internal belief to visible obedience? (Be specific. A conversation? Confession? Joining a group? Letting go of a habit? Initiating prayer? Making something right?)

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NOTES

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