

Thinking & talking through the biblical text during the week helps turn what God is saying into action steps. Here are some key questions to get you started.

#### Reflection Questions:

- Describe someone you've observed who was powerful (physically, politically, economically, or spiritually)

#### Read **Acts 19:1-22**

- What is missing in the lives of believers in Ephesus (**vv1-6**)?
- What difference would it make to you if the Holy Spirit was missing?
- What does baptism signify?
- How can you tell if the Holy Spirit is present in your life?
- What does Paul mean when he asks about "receiving the Holy Spirit"?
- What significance is there in the laying on of hands?
- How do the exorcists misunderstand the power of God (**vv13-16**)?
- What does the evil spirit's remark reveal (**v15**)?
- Why do you think the humiliation of the exorcists had such a wide reaching effect (**vv17-20**)?

#### Read **Acts 19:23-41**

- Why do you think the silversmiths see Paul and his message as a threat (**vv23-27**)?
- Does the gospel present a similar threat today? Why or why not?
- Imagine you are in the crowd in the amphitheatre (**vv29-34**). What do you see, hear, think? What are your emotions?
- How is wisdom shown by the city official (**vv35-41**)?
- What is the tension between ineffective preaching of a "gospel" which makes no impact on real life and a noisy, personally and socially offensive proclamation?

#### Living it Out

- What does this chapter say about power and its use? What is the difference between power and magic?
- Pray that the power of God would be evident in your life, not simply for its own sake, or your sake, but as the out living of your submission to God and his kingdom breaking in, not just in your life, but in your relationships, in Orillia and in our world.