The Church Multiplies. Acts 19:1-41

Father, we come to applaud you for who you are. Your love has indeed won for this world that led you to send your son, Jesus. Your love led you to the cross to die in our place for our sin, so we come simply to say thank you that you've met our every need eternally. And so now I pray as I empty myself and just ask that you would use me with your Spirit and to use me to feed, strengthen and encourage us as your children, for your glory. We look forward to hearing from you. And I do pray that you would use the truth from your word this morning to impact our hearts that we might shine as a light in a really dark world. In Jesus name. Amen.

阿爸父神，我们来为你是谁鼓掌。你的爱确实为这个世界赢得了胜利，这个世界让你派遣了你的儿子耶稣。你的爱带领你走向十字架，为我们的罪而死，所以我们来简单地说谢谢你，你永远满足了我们的每一个需要。所以现在我在清空自己的时候祷告，只祈求你用你的圣灵来使用我，用我来喂养、加强和鼓励我们作为你的孩子，为了你的荣耀。我们期待您的回音。我祷告你今天早上能用你的话中的真理来影响我们的心，让我们在一个真正黑暗的世界里像一盏灯一样闪耀。奉耶稣的名。阿门。

Update on our family:

Jonathan & Esther are still at university. Jonathan has completed his first semester and working temporarily here in our town. Esther has completed her 5th semester. On the 2nd September she is heading to England for her semester abroad for 6 months.

Heather is working part-time in the HR department. She oversees the school and long termers. Long termers are those who have been with the ships for 5 years or more.

I have just returned from Ghana. In September last year I took on a new role which is Training Director for OM Ships. When I handed over my previous role due to the pandemic, I could not hand over my job well to the person that was taking over from me. On this trip to Ghana was basically training him to do the job well. How to deal with authorities and church leaders and media.

Here is a brief update about us. Thank you for praying for us and standing with us.

Jonathan & Esther还在上大学。Jonathan已经完成了他的第一个学期，并在我们镇上临时工作。 Esther 已经完成了她的第 5 个学期。 9 月 2 日，她将前往英国在国外度过 6 个月的学期。

Heather在人力资源部门兼职。她负责监督学校和长期员工。长期者是指那些已经在船上工作 5 年或更长时间的人。

我刚从加纳回来。去年 9 月，我担任了一个新角色，即 OM Ships 的培训总监。当我因大流行而将以前的角色移交给我时，我无法将工作很好地移交给接替我的人。这次加纳之行基本上是在训练他把工作做好。如何与当局、教会领袖和媒体打交道。

这是关于我们的简要更新。感谢您为我们祷告并与我们站在一起。

Acts 19 it's about the planting of the church in Ephesus. So, this is one of the most intriguing sections of scripture, because in Acts, typically you get the church planted and then you don't hear much more about them. Acts 19, starts really well. A lot of people coming to know Jesus. But in Revelation, we get towards the end of the story of this church, and we see a bigger picture of what happened in Ephesus. Let us look at Revelation chapter 2, 1-7. In fact, in between, you get an epistle, Ephesians, written to the church at Ephesus, and you get two letters written to Timothy who is the pastor there. So, I love this section, because it not only gives you the beginning of the church, the middle and the end of the church. And you read Ephesians and 1st & 2nd Timothy in a brand-new light.

使徒行传 19 章是关于在以弗所建立教会。所以，这是圣经中最有趣的部分之一，因为在使徒行传中，通常你会建立教会，然后你就不会听到更多关于它们的信息。使徒行传 19，开始得真好。很多人来认识耶稣。但是在启示录中，我们接近了这个教会故事的结尾，我们看到了以弗所发生的事情的更大图景。让我们看看启示录第 2 章 1-7 章。事实上，在这中间，你会收到一封写给以弗所教会的以弗所书，还有两封写给那里的牧师提摩太的信。所以，我喜欢这个部分，因为它不仅给你教会的开始，教会的中间和结束。你以全新的眼光阅读以弗所书和提摩太前书和第 1 章和第 2 章。

Here's where I'm going with this. Have you ever met a Christian who got really old in Christ, and they got really crusty, and they were missing love? Anybody? How about this? Have you ever been in a relationship where over the years love decreased and one or both of the partners was no longer willing to sacrifice self for the well-being of another and that marriage, that relationship broke up? 这就是我要去的地方。你有没有遇到过一个基督徒，他在基督里真的变老了，他们变得很硬，而且他们缺少爱？有人吗？这个怎么样？你有没有经历过这样的关系，多年来爱情减少，一方或双方不再愿意为了另一个人的幸福而牺牲自己，那段婚姻，这段关系破裂了？

It's a problem we all face. Love leaks and so watch. Here's the end of the church at Ephesus. Revelation chapter 2:1-7. God says, John writes, “Write this letter to the angel[a] of the church in Ephesus. This is the message from the one who holds the seven stars in his right hand, the one who walks among the seven gold lampstands: 2 “I know all the things you do. I have seen your hard work and your patient endurance. I know you don’t tolerate evil people. You have examined the claims of those who say they are apostles but are not. You have discovered they are liars. 3 You have patiently suffered for me without quitting. 4 “But I have this complaint against you. You don’t love me or each other as you did at first! 5 Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. If you don’t repent, I will come and remove your lampstand from its place among the churches. 6 But this is in your favour: You hate the evil deeds of the Nicolaitans, just as I do. 7 “Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. To everyone who is victorious I will give fruit from the tree of life in the paradise of God.

这是我们都面临的问题。爱泄漏等观看。这是以弗所教会的尽头。启示录 2:1-7。上帝说，约翰写道：“ 你 要 写 信 给 以 弗 所 教 会 的 使 者 ， 说 ： 那 右 手 拿 着 七 星 、 在 七 个 金 灯 ? 中 间 行 走 的 ， 说 ：2 我 知 道 你 的 行 为 、 劳 碌 、 忍 耐 ， 也 知 道 你 不 能 容 忍 恶 人 。 你 也 曾 试 验 那 自 称 为 使 徒 却 不 是 使 徒 的 ， 看 出 他 们 是 假 的 来 。3 你 也 能 忍 耐 ， 曾 为 我 的 名 劳 苦 ， 并 不 乏 倦 。4 然 而 有 一 件 事 我 要 责 备 你 ， 就 是 你 把 起 初 的 爱 心 离 弃 了 。5 所 以 ， 应 当 回 想 你 是 从 那 里 坠 落 的 ， 并 要 悔 改 ， 行 起 初 所 行 的 事 。 你 若 不 悔 改 ， 我 就 临 到 你 那 里 ， 把 你 的 灯 ? 从 原 处 挪 去 。6 然 而 你 还 有 一 件 可 取 的 事 ， 就 是 你 恨 恶 尼 哥 拉 一 党 人 的 行 为 ， 这 也 是 我 所 恨 恶 的 。7 圣 灵 向 众 教 会 所 说 的 话 ， 凡 有 耳 的 ， 就 应 当 听 ！ 得 胜 的 ， 我 必 将 神 乐 园 中 生 命 树 的 果 子 赐 给 他 吃 。“

So, we've got the church at Ephesus, an overarching theme of this passage. If you read straight through the Bible, we would leave with this: 1John 4:8. "God is love." He ultimately sacrifices for others' well-beings. That's agape. God's love. Here's the small theological picture. Sin separates us from the love of God. We now love ourselves. Wherever sin remains, relationship dies. Sin has come to steal, kill, and destroy. Wherever sin remains, love dies, slowly, over time. All I can think about is me. I love myself, love more of me. I want you to think about me. I think about myself. I think good thoughts about me. I want you to think good thoughts about me.

所以，我们有以弗所教会，这是这段经文的首要主题。如果你直接通读圣经，我们会留下这个：约翰一书 4:8。 “神就是爱。”他最终会为他人的福祉做出牺牲。那是爱。神的爱。这是小神学图片。罪使我们与上帝的爱隔绝。我们现在爱自己。哪里有罪，关系就会消失。罪来偷窃、杀害和毁灭。哪里有罪，随着时间的推移，爱就会慢慢消失。我能想到的只有我自己。我爱我自己，更爱我自己。我要你为我着想。我想我自己。我认为我的想法很好。我希望你对我有好的想法。

The Bible tells the story, it's a true story of what we call the good news, the Gospel. Jesus came and demonstrated the love of God, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Jesus was asked, what's the whole summation of the law? What's the greatest commandment?

Love the Lord your God, love your neighbour. He would tell us, love our enemies. Paul would write to young Timothy. 1 Timothy 1:5 “The purpose of my instruction is that all believers would be filled with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and genuine faith.” The goal of this instruction this morning, the goal of our instruction is love. 圣经讲述了这个故事，这是一个关于我们所谓的好消息，福音的真实故事。耶稣来了，彰显了上帝的爱，当我们还是罪人时，基督已经为我们死了。有人问耶稣，律法的总纲是什么？最大的诫命是什么？

爱主你的上帝，爱你的邻居。他会告诉我们，爱我们的敌人。保罗会写信给年轻的提摩太。 1 提摩太前书 1:5 “5 但 命 令 的 总 归 就 是 爱 ； 这 爱 是 从 清 洁 的 心 和 无 亏 的 良 心 ， 无 伪 的 信 心 生 出 来 的 。“

The church was planted in Ephesians and the gospel advanced in the face of hardship. But this morning, I'm going to show you how does this love fade? And you can ask this question in your marriage this morning, in whatever relationship. In your relationship with

God, watch what happens. Let us walk through together to see what happened in Ephesus. 教会是在以弗所书建立的，福音在困难面前得以推进。但是今天早上，我要告诉你这种爱是如何消失的？今天早上你可以在你的婚姻中问这个问题，不管是什么关系。在你与

上帝，看看会发生什么。让我们一起走过，看看在以弗所发生了什么。

19:1-10 is going to cover about two years and three months that Paul is in Ephesus. And then verses 11-20 is going to explain something that happened during those two years and three months and then last 20 verses we are going to talk about this massive riot that takes place. What can we learn from these historical events that will help us in our relationships today so that we don't end up at the end of our story loveless? Working hard, doing a lot, very busy, but unmoved inside by the gospel to sacrifice our well-being for the well-being of others. 19:1-10 将涵盖保罗在以弗所的大约两年零三个月。然后第 11-20 节将解释在那两年零三个月中发生的事情，然后在最后 20 节我们将讨论发生的这场大规模骚乱。我们可以从这些历史事件中学到什么来帮助我们建立今天的关系，这样我们就不会在故事的结尾处失去爱情？努力工作，做很多事情，非常忙碌，但内心却对福音无动于衷，为了他人的福祉而牺牲自己的福祉。

Watch this. Verses 1-10. God says, Luke writes; so, what we have here is really a picture of our lives. Sometimes when we share the gospel, that God is loved, that he so loved this world, he sent his Son, sometimes we have reception. Sometimes when you tell people about the gospel, they're like, yeah, I'm ready to go. I need the information. The Spirit of God has worked in my heart and when we share Christ, they're ready to go.

In verses 8-10, sometimes when you share the gospel, people say, heck, no. So, some people are ready to go. Some people say, heck, no. Here's the bottom line. Verses 1-10 we see **Rejection**. Rejection is universal. It's a common human experience. How many of us have felt rejection in any form? You look around. It's almost 100%. Rejection is a human condition in a fallen world. And I need us to know, rejection and criticism is very sticky to our souls. In fact, let me run a little test quickly. How many of you, when someone criticised you or you've been rejected those sticks with you for a long time? How many of you, when you get a compliment, that sticks with you for just as long? Unfortunately, I am not there to witness. Love to see the response of the congregation. 看这个。第 1-10 节。上帝说，路加写道；所以，我们在这里拥有的真的是我们生活的写照。有时，当我们分享福音时，上帝是被爱的，他是如此爱这个世界，他派了他的儿子，有时我们会受到欢迎。有时当你告诉人们福音时，他们就像，是的，我准备好了。我需要这些信息。上帝的灵在我心中动工，当我们分享基督时，他们就准备好了。

在第 8-10 节中，有时当你分享福音时，人们会说，哎呀，不。所以，有些人已经准备好了。有些人说，哎呀，不。这是底线。第 1-10 节我们看到拒绝。拒绝是普遍的。这是人类普遍的经历。我们中有多少人感受到任何形式的拒绝？你环顾四周。几乎是 100%。拒绝是堕落世界中的人类状况。我需要我们知道，拒绝和批评对我们的灵魂非常粘。事实上，让我快速运行一个小测试。你们有多少人，当有人批评你或你被拒绝的时候，那些坚持你很长时间的人？你们中有多少人，当你得到赞美时，会坚持多久？不幸的是，我不是在那里见证。喜欢看到会众的反应。

Paul is amazing, he is saying if our identity is based in Jesus Christ, it doesn't matter whether it's a compliment or criticism or rejection, it doesn't get to name us, define us. Criticism loses its stickiness. 保罗很了不起，他说如果我们的身份是基于耶稣基督的，那么无论是赞美、批评还是拒绝，它都无法命名我们，定义我们。批评失去了粘性。

Campbell Morgan was one of 150 young men who sought entrance to the Wesleyan ministry in 1888. He passed the doctrinal examinations, but then faced the trial sermon. In a cavernous auditorium that could seat more than 1,000 sat three ministers and 75 others who came to listen. When Morgan stepped into the pulpit, the vast room and the searching, critical eyes caught him up short. Two weeks later Morgan's name appeared among the l05 REJECTED for the ministry that year. 坎贝尔摩根是 1888 年寻求进入卫斯理事工的 150 名年轻人之一。他通过了教义考试，但随后面临着审判布道。在一个可容纳 1,000 多人的巨大礼堂中，坐着三名部长和 75 名其他人前来聆听。当摩根走上讲台时，广阔的房间和搜寻的、挑剔的眼睛让他看不清楚。两周后，摩根的名字出现在当年的事工被拒绝的 105 名中。

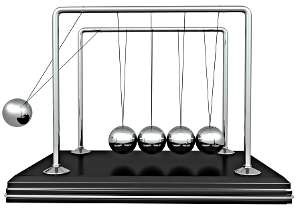
Jill Morgan, his daughter-in-law, wrote in her book, A Man of the Word, "He wired to his father the one word, 'Rejected,' and sat down to write in his diary: 'Very dark everything seems. Still, He knows best.' Quickly came the reply: 'Rejected on earth. Accepted in heaven. Dad.'" 他的儿媳吉尔摩根在她的书《一个有言的人》中写道，“他给他父亲写了一个词，‘拒绝’，然后坐下来在日记中写道：‘一切似乎都非常黑暗。不过，他最清楚。很快得到答复：'在地球上被拒绝。在天堂被接受。爸爸。'”

In later years, Morgan said: "God said to me, in the weeks of loneliness and darkness that followed, 'I want you to cease making plans for yourself and let Me plan your life.'" Rejection is rarely permanent, as Morgan went on to prove. Even in this life, circumstances change, and ultimately, there is no rejection of those accepted by Christ. 在后来的几年里，摩根说：“上帝对我说，在接下来的几周孤独和黑暗中，'我希望你停止为自己制定计划，让我计划你的生活。'” 正如摩根所说，拒绝很少是永久性的来证明。即使在这一生中，情况也会改变，最终，不会拒绝那些被基督接受的人。

The gospel just takes it off because we no longer find our identity in what other people think about me.

Listen, if we don't understand this, our relationships will fall apart, this is why some relationships falls apart. We step on each other’s toes. We probably learn in physics class - Newton's Third Law, every action, opposite and equal reaction. Here's what's going on in the world. One political side will criticize and reject the other political side. And guess what they do? Criticize and reject the other side. Have you ever seen Newton's Cradle? 福音刚刚起飞，因为我们不再在其他人对我的看法中找到我们的身份。

听着，如果我们不明白这一点，我们的关系就会破裂，这就是为什么有些关系会破裂。我们踩到彼此的脚趾。我们大概在物理课上学过——牛顿第三定律，每一个动作，对等反应。这就是世界上正在发生的事情。政治一方会批评和拒绝另一政治方。猜猜他们做什么？批评和拒绝对方。你见过牛顿的摇篮吗？



Those silver balls. That will explain exactly what's going on in the world. I hate you. That is exactly what is happening. Now, as believers what do we do with rejection? God wants to do something miraculous in us and through us. You see, when that rejection comes, did you see what Paul did? It's right there. Verse 9. "But when some were hardened, disobedient, speaking evil of the Way, he withdrew. Total miracle. Paul, we hate you. We reject you. Well, I'm just going to withdraw. You see, many of us, when we get rejected, we have to come back harder, with more. You hit us; we will hit you harder. That just means they're going to hit harder. Then they're going to hit even harder. You want to do something miraculous? When you get hit, don't repay evil for evil. Because when there's nothing to push against, the other side falls. That's physics. It's true in the spiritual realm as well. Many of us Christians, when we get rejected over and over, we break. Paul is encouraging us be passive aggressive. We will leave a Gideon Bible.

那些银球。这将准确地解释世界上正在发生的事情。我恨你。这正是正在发生的事情。现在，作为信徒，我们如何对待拒绝？上帝想在我们里面并通过我们做一些神奇的事情。你看，当拒绝来临时，你看到保罗做了什么吗？它就在那里。第 9 节。“但当有些人刚硬、不听话、说正道的坏话时，他就退出了。真是奇迹。保罗，我们恨你。我们拒绝你。好吧，我只是要退出。你看，我们中的许多人，当我们被拒绝时，我们必须更用力地回来，用更多做一些神奇的事？当你被击中时，不要以恶报恶。因为当没有什么可以抗拒的时候，对方就会倒下。这是物理学。在精神领域也是如此。我们许多基督徒，当我们得到一次又一次地被拒绝，我们就崩溃了。保罗鼓励我们被动进取。我们将留下一本基甸圣经。

Paul shows up. Some people say, yes. Some people say no. Here's the principle. Love the harvest that Jesus gives you. Some people will come to Jesus. Love that! 保罗现身。有人说，是的。有些人说不。这是原理。爱耶稣给你的收获。有些人会来到耶稣面前。喜欢那个！

Some people are going to hate the gospel. Love them. Don't push back. You see, if we don't take our rejection and criticisms to Christ, our soul will be cold and uncaring towards them. How do we go from an amazing, miraculous, spirit-filled church to a loveless church? If we don’t take our relationships to Christ, our heart will become cold and hard toward the other people. We will actually begin to see other people as the problem, that is not the point. 有些人会憎恨福音。爱他们。不要推后。你看，如果我们不把我们的拒绝和批评带到基督面前，我们的灵魂就会对他们冷酷无情。我们如何从一个奇妙的、神奇的、充满灵性的教会变成一个没有爱的教会？如果我们不把我们的关系带到基督面前，我们的心就会对其他人变得冷酷无情。我们实际上会开始将其他人视为问题，那不是重点。

Have you ever seen on YouTube a counselling session? It looks like a tennis match. He said. She said. He said. She said. He said. She said. We get done. Two hours, I'm exhausted from just watching. And we've made no progress because we're doing Newton's Cradle. You want to do something amazing, something profound? Learn to love your enemy. Stop fighting fire with fire. Our heart will become cold and hard if you don't take those criticisms to Christ. We will see lost people as the problem. 您是否曾在 YouTube 上看过咨询课程？它看起来像一场网球比赛。他说。她说。他说。她说。他说。她说。我们完成了。两个小时，光看就累了。我们没有取得任何进展，因为我们在做牛顿的摇篮。你想做一些惊人的、深刻的事情吗？学会爱你的敌人。停止以火灭火。如果你不把这些批评交给基督，我们的心就会变得冰冷和刚硬。我们将把迷失的人视为问题。

Now let us see verses 11-20. **Repentance** is a great thing. I think in Ephesians 4:32. Paul wrote to the church in Ephesus, when they were fighting with one another. He said, be kind to one another. Tender-hearted, compassionate, forgiving each other even as God, in Christ Jesus has forgiven you. 现在让我们看 11-20 节。忏悔是一件大好事。我认为在以弗所书 4:32。保罗写信给以弗所的教会，当时他们正在互相争斗。他说，善待彼此。心地善良，富有同情心，彼此宽恕，就像上帝在基督耶稣里宽恕了你一样。

Now if you read through Timothy in Ephesians you will read totally different way. Their love was already becoming hardened, and Paul was trying to soften them up through the gospel. I honestly think this is why Paul wrote 1 Timothy1:13 where Paul said, Timothy, if they're rejecting the gospel, remember. Here's a trustworthy statement, worthy of acceptance that Christ Jesus came into this world to save sinners, among whom I am chief and foremost. 现在，如果你通读以弗所书的提摩太，你会以完全不同的方式阅读。他们的爱已经变得刚硬，保罗试图通过福音来软化他们。老实说，我认为这就是保罗写提摩太前书 1:13 的原因，保罗说，提摩太，如果他们拒绝福音，请记住。这是一个值得信赖的声明，值得接受，基督耶稣来到这个世界是为了拯救罪人，其中我是首要的。

Timothy, I rejected the gospel. Don't grow hard and cold towards them, because if you do, you'll lose love and grow hard and cold. Now watch this. 11-20. This is one of the most interesting sections of scripture. 11 "God was performing extraordinary miracles by the hand of Paul, 12 so that handkerchiefs and aprons were even carried from his body to the sick and diseases left them, and evil spirits went out." So, God was doing these. Paul didn't even know they were going on. People would pick up a hanky that he dropped, and God would use that to heal other people. So, they were real deal miracles, but they're also nonsense. Watch verse 13. Contrasting conjunction, "But also some of the Jewish exorcists, who went from place to place, attempted to name over those who had the evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying 'I call you by Jesus whom Paul preaches.' 14 Seven sons of one Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. 15 "And the evil spirit answered and said to them, 'I recognize Jesus, and I know about Paul, but who are you?' 16 And the man, in whom was the evil Spirit, leaped on them and subdued all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded." 提摩太，我拒绝了福音。不要对他们变得冷酷无情，因为如果你这样做，你会失去爱，变得冷酷无情。现在看这个。 11-20。这是圣经中最有趣的部分之一。 11 “神借着保罗的手行了非凡的神迹，12 甚至手帕和围裙从他身上带到病人身上，疾病离开了他们，邪灵就出去了。”所以，上帝正在做这些。保罗甚至不知道他们在继续。人们会捡起他掉下的手帕，上帝会用它来治愈其他人。所以，它们是真正的交易奇迹，但它们也是无稽之谈。观看第 13 节。对比连词，“但也有一些犹太驱魔人，从一个地方到另一个地方，试图在那些拥有邪灵的人身上命名主耶稣的名字，说：‘我指着保罗所传的耶稣呼唤你.' 14 一位犹太祭司长基瓦的七个儿子正在做这件事。 15 “邪灵回答说，‘我认识耶稣，我认识保罗，但你们是谁？ 16 那个被邪灵附在里面的人跳到他们身上，制服了他们，制服了他们，使他们赤身露体，受伤逃出那房子。”

Now watch what happened as a result of this. This is why Luke is sharing it. 17 "This became known to all, both Jews and Greeks, who lived in Ephesus; and fear fell upon them all and the name of the Lord Jesus was being magnified. 18 Many also of those who had believed kept coming, confessing, and disclosing their practices." So, these were believers who were repainting now. Watch this. 19 "And many of those who practiced magic brought their books together and began burning them in the sight of everyone; and they counted up the price of them and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver." About probably 6-8 million dollars today.

20 "So the word of the Lord was growing mightily and prevailing." So here, Luke simply highlights real miracles and nonsense. These people who were gaining something for using Jesus' name. The amazing part to me is that the Bible says these were believers who then

repented and burned all of their dark magic books. Did you see that? They were believers, but they had a foot in each world. It was like, on Sunday I come worship Jesus because he’s, my saviour. But then Monday through Saturday, I live like non-believers because I'm the Lord of my life. Does that sound familiar? Many of us come to Jesus and say, you want to save me from hell? That's awesome. I love that. You're my saviour, but I'm going to be the sultan in my life. I'm going to call the shots during weekdays. Something wakes them up to their need for Jesus not only to be saviour, but also to be Lord. And that's a good thing. **Repentance** is always a good thing. 现在看看结果如何。这就是卢克分享它的原因。 17 住在以弗所的犹太人和希利尼人都知道这事；众人都惧怕，主耶稣的名被尊为大。 18 也有许多信从的人，不断地来，认罪，揭开他们的做法。”所以，这些是现在正在重新粉刷的信徒。看这个。 19 “有许多行魔法的人把书拿起来，当着众人的面焚烧；他们数了数，发现有五万块银子。”今天大约有 6-8 百万美元。

20“这样，耶和华的话就大有能力，得胜了。”所以在这里，卢克只是强调了真正的奇迹和胡说八道。这些人因使用耶稣的名而有所收获。令我惊奇的是，圣经说这些信徒当时

悔改并烧毁了他们所有的黑暗魔法书。你看到了吗？他们是信徒，但他们在每个世界都有立足之地。就像，周日我来敬拜耶稣，因为他是我的救主。但是从周一到周六，我像非信徒一样生活，因为我是我生命的主宰。这听起来很熟悉吗？我们中的许多人来到耶稣面前说，你想救我脱离地狱吗？棒极了。我喜欢那个。你是我的救世主，但我将成为我生命中的苏丹。我要在工作日做主。有些事情唤醒了他们，他们不仅需要耶稣成为救世主，还需要成为主。这是一件好事。悔改总是好事。

I think this is why Paul would write in Ephesians 4:2 - With all humility, tenderness, gentleness, bear with one another. Be incredibly patient with one another. We are all at different ages and stages in this thing. So be gentle. I think this is why Paul probably wrote to Timothy. 2 Timothy 2:24. A servant of the Lord must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone, be able to teach, and be patient with difficult people. If by change they might come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil. We are all at different stages. If we use the Bible as binoculars to check out what everybody else is doing, our repentance has not led to humility. If we use the Bible as binoculars to check out what our spouse is doing and correct them, you're misusing and weaponizing the Bible. Our repentance has led to pride, not humility. So, repentance is a great thing if it leads to humility. 我想这就是为什么保罗会在以弗所书 4:2 中写道——谦卑、温柔、温柔，彼此包容。彼此之间要有令人难以置信的耐心。在这件事上，我们都处于不同的年龄和阶段。所以要温柔。我想这就是保罗可能写信给提摩太的原因。 2 提摩太前书 2:24。主的仆人不应该争吵，而必须对每个人都友善，能够教导，并且对困难的人有耐心。如果通过改变，他们可能会醒悟并逃脱魔鬼的网罗。我们都处于不同的阶段。如果我们把圣经当作双筒望远镜来查看其他人在做什么，我们的悔改并没有导致谦卑。如果我们使用圣经作为双筒望远镜来检查我们的配偶正在做什么并纠正它们，那么你就是在滥用和武器化圣经。我们的悔改导致了骄傲，而不是谦卑。所以，如果悔改能带来谦卑，那悔改是一件好事。

Watch what happens next.

Verse 21. I'm going to read 21-41 because it's all one story. If I sum it up, Paul preaches the gospel that threatens the idol that the Ephesians worship and they **Rage** because of it. And that always happens. If I threaten your idol. If we talk about cars/money, for some, I'm touching an idol. I know I might get some emails saying, how dare you. You're a coward. Why don't you step up to the plate and do something meaningful? Watch. Whenever you touch an idol, expect rage. Because you are touching something that they derive life, hope, joy, peace from. 看看接下来会发生什么。

第 21 节。我将阅读第 21-41 节，因为这都是一个故事。如果我总结一下，保罗传讲的福音威胁到以弗所人所崇拜的偶像，他们因此而愤怒。而这总是发生。如果我威胁到你的偶像。如果我们谈论汽车/金钱，对于某些人来说，我是在接触偶像。我知道我可能会收到一些电子邮件说，你怎么敢。你是个胆小鬼。你为什么不站出来做一些有意义的事情呢？手表。每当你触碰偶像时，都要期待愤怒。因为你正在触摸他们从中获得生命、希望、欢乐、和平的东西。

Watch what happens here. Verse 21. "Now after these things were finished, Paul felt compelled by the Spirit to go to Jerusalem after he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, saying, 'After I have been there, I must also see Rome.' 22 And having sent into Macedonia two of those who ministered to him, Timothy, and Erastus, he (Paul) himself stayed in Asia for a while. Planted the seven churches that were in that area. 23 "About that time there occurred no small disturbance concerning the Way." Now watch this. 24 "For a man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who had a large business manufacturing silver shrine of the Greek goddess Artemis, you can read the rest. This Paul has persuaded and turned away a considerable number of people, saying that . . .'gods made with human hands are no gods at all'. " Seems like a pretty wise statement. 看看这里发生了什么。第 21 节。“这些事都办完了，保罗经过马其顿和亚该亚之后，觉得被圣灵逼着去耶路撒冷，说：‘我到了那里之后，也必须去看看罗马。’ 22 他（保罗）把服事他的两个人，提摩太和以拉都打发到马其顿，他（保罗）自己在亚细亚逗留了一段时间。在那个地区建立了七个教会。 23 “那时，发生了不小的关于道路的干扰。” 现在看这个。 24 “对于一个名叫德米特里厄斯的银匠，他有一个大生意，制造希腊女神阿尔忒弥斯的银制神龛，你可以阅读其余的部分。这个保罗说服和拒绝了相当多的人，说。 . .'人手所造的神根本就不是神'。 ”似乎是一个非常明智的声明。

But here, they get mad about it.

Watch verse 27. 'Not only is there danger that this trade of ours fall into disrepute, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis, be regarded as worthless and that she whom all of Asia and the world worship will even be dethroned from her magnificence'." 但在这里，他们对此很生气。

请看第 27 节。“不仅我们的贸易有名誉扫地的危险，而且伟大女神阿尔忒弥斯的神庙也将被视为一文不值，甚至整个亚洲和世界都崇拜的她将被废黜她的壮丽”。

Doesn't sound like a very powerful God if she's threatened by one believer saying, hey, gods made with human hands are no gods at all. Watch verse 28. "When they heard this, they were filled with rage, they began crying out, saying, 'Great is Artemis of the Ephesians! We can read the rest of the verses till 41. Long section 如果她被一位信徒威胁说，嘿，用人手创造的神根本不是神，那听起来就不像是一个非常强大的神。请看第 28 节。“他们听见这话，就怒气冲冲，大声喊叫，说：‘以弗所人的亚底米太棒了！我们可以读到其余的经文，直到 41 节。长节

Let me sum it up very simply. The world is a corrosive place. Just look at the periodic table of elements. Some elements are corrosive to us. We happen to be made for a garden that's

perfect. And this world is a corrosive place. Now, here's the danger. The church has always picked up elements of every culture that she has existed in. I don't have time to fully flush out that argument. If you look at Greece, the church became very intellectual because it was an intellectual place. If you look at Rome and the spread of the church in Rome, it became very institutional. Look at the Roman Catholic church. Because the government was an institution in and of itself. If you look at Europe, the gospel became very formal. It still is. Big cathedrals, tea party type stuff, but no internal change. 让我非常简单地总结一下。世界是一个腐蚀性的地方。看看元素周期表就知道了。有些元素对我们有腐蚀性。我们碰巧是为一个花园而造的

完美的。而这个世界是一个腐蚀性的地方。现在，危险来了。教会总是吸收她所存在的每一种文化的元素。我没有时间完全澄清这个论点。如果你看看希腊，教会变得非常有知识，因为它是一个有知识的地方。如果你看看罗马和罗马教会的传播，它变得非常制度化。看看罗马天主教堂。因为政府本身就是一个机构。如果你看看欧洲，福音变得非常正式。它仍然是。大大教堂，茶会式的东西，但没有内部变化。

The gospel has become very individual. It's about me and God. Not me and anyone else. Now, what happened here in Acts 19, I just call it the wrinkly finger principle. When you go swimming, you stay long in the water, what happens to your fingers and toes?

Yeah, they're wrinkly. They used to think it was hyperhidrosis. It's not. It's the blood vessels constricting. Whatever it is, your fingers wrinkle because of the environment you're in. It's very interesting here. The church gets planted in Ephesus and there's rage and outbursts and anger and outcries. The church has always picked up the environment in every culture that they live in. 福音变得非常个人化。这是关于我和上帝的。不是我和其他任何人。现在，在使徒行传 19 章中发生的事情，我只是称之为手指起皱纹的原则。当你去游泳时，你在水中呆了很长时间，你的手指和脚趾会发生什么？

是的，他们皱巴巴的。他们过去认为这是多汗症。不是。这是血管收缩。不管是什么，你的手指都会因为你所处的环境而起皱。这里很有趣。教会在以弗所建立，有愤怒、爆发、愤怒和抗议。教会总是在他们生活的每一种文化中融入环境。

We all have read the book of Ephesians at some point in our lives. I think this is why Paul would write Ephesians 4:26. Be angry but don't sin and don't let the sin go down on your anger. In fact, in Ephesians 4:31, I think it's why Paul would write, let all bitterness, anger, rage, malice, these outbursts be put away from you. You see, because the church has always taken on some of the elements of the culture around them this was true of Ephesus if you fast forward to 94 AD. Timothy was still pastor there and they were still worshiping Artemis. They came out for a parade to worship Diana and old Timothy got out and he began to preach the gospel. Guess what the Ephesians did to Timothy in 94 AD, they beat him down, stoned him, dragged him through the city and put him to death.

That anger was still there. You see, here's the principle in it. When we use the world's mode, means and method for fighting the world, we become like the world. Let me say this again.

When we use the world's modes, means and methods and use those methods to fight against the world, guess what? We've become like the world and the light of the glory of the gospel is lost. 我们都曾在人生的某个阶段读过以弗所书。我想这就是保罗写以弗所书 4:26 的原因。生气，但不要犯罪，不要让罪因你的愤怒而下降。事实上，在以弗所书 4 章 31 节，我认为这就是为什么保罗会写，让所有的苦毒、愤怒、愤怒、恶意，这些爆发从你身上消失。你看，因为教会一直采用他们周围文化的一些元素，如果你快进到公元 94 年，这就是以弗所的真实情况。提摩太仍然是那里的牧师，他们仍然崇拜阿尔忒弥斯。他们出来游行敬拜戴安娜，老提摩太下车开始传福音。猜猜公元 94 年以弗所人对提摩太做了什么，他们打他，用石头打他，把他拖过城，把他处死。

那种怒火还在。你看，这就是其中的原理。当我们用世界的方式、手段和方法来对抗世界时，我们就变得像世界一样。让我再说一遍。

当我们用世界的方式、手段和方法，用这些方法来对抗世界时，你猜怎么着？我们变得像世界一样，失去了福音荣耀的光。

And you will look at lost people as the problem, not the point. You see, the point of our instruction -- let me end with this. The point of our instruction, Paul wrote to Timothy, 1 Timothy 1:5. The goal of our instruction is love. You want to make a difference, learn what it means to love. You see, GMSJ, if we speak the most eloquent speeches that have ever been spoken on the face of the earth and do not have love, we've actually become annoying. A noisy gong or a clanging symbol. If I understand all mysteries and all prophecies and if I'm super-duper smart and I explain all of Daniel's prophecies and all of Revelation prophecy but don't have love, I'm nothing. Nothing! 你会把迷路的人视为问题，而不是重点。你看，我们指令的重点——让我以这个结束。我们教导的重点，保罗写信给提摩太，提摩太前书 1:5。我们教学的目标是爱。你想有所作为，学习什么是爱。你看，GMSJ，如果我们说地球上有史以来最雄辩的演讲并且没有爱，我们实际上变得很烦人。嘈杂的锣或叮当的符号。如果我理解所有的奥秘和所有的预言，如果我超级聪明，我解释了丹尼尔的所有预言和所有启示录预言，但没有爱，我什么都不是。没有什么！

And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, surrendering my own body to be burned but don't have love, it profits me nothing. You see, we want to make a difference in this world, stop paying evil for evil. 如果我把我所有的财产都用来养活穷人，放弃自己的身体被焚烧却没有爱，那对我没有任何好处。你看，我们想要改变这个世界，停止以恶报恶。

And yet, where we choose to allow sin to remain, it slowly puts love to death. Beloved, if God so loved us, how ought we to love one another? Let's love for the glory of God. Let me pray. 然而，在我们选择让罪继续存在的地方，它会慢慢地将爱置于死地。亲爱的，如果上帝如此爱我们，我们应该如何彼此相爱？让我们爱上帝的荣耀。让我祈祷。

Our heavenly Father, thank you for the fun this morning. Just to enjoy your word. It is so good. It is living, active, sharper than any two-edged sword. Father, I pray that you would take your word, apply it to our hearts that we wouldn't use it as binoculars, but a mirror to see where I have fallen short. We pray our repentance would lead to humility that flows out in love towards the lost. We pray that we would meet rejection with your love bringing that

criticism to you. And Father, that we would be a people that would never repay evil for evil. Would you shed that love of Christ abroad in our hearts so that we might be a people of love in a world that is indifferent and filled with hate? Would you shine the light of your gospel through us? 我们的天父，谢谢你今天早上的乐趣。只是为了享受你的话。这真好。它是活生生的，活跃的，比任何两刃剑都锋利。父亲，我祈祷你能接受你的话，把它应用到我们的心里，我们不会把它当作双筒望远镜，而是一面镜子，可以看到我的不足之处。我们祈祷我们的悔改会导致谦卑，在爱中流向失丧者。我们祈祷我们会因您的爱而遭到拒绝

批评你。天父，我们将成为永不以恶报恶的民族。你愿意把基督的爱洒在我们心里，好让我们在一个冷漠和充满仇恨的世界里成为有爱的人吗？你会通过我们发出你的福音之光吗？

In Jesus' name. Amen! 奉耶稣的名。阿门！