

The background features a black field with abstract, flowing, ribbon-like shapes. A prominent green wave curves across the top, while a yellow and orange wave curves across the bottom. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

# THE BLESSED LIFE

# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- "Preach Revival" – themes of renewal.
- Ephesians – Why this book on this theme?
- Similarities to our culture (Wealthy city; port city - commerce; metropolis; pluralistic & diverse; 200,000-250,000)



# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- A very spiritual city. 50 deities; Artemis was the chief deity; “Artemis of the Ephesians”. (temple – one of 7 wonders of the ancient world; 4x the size of the Parthenon in Athens; 60’ columns; temple banking center; image on coinage; Olympic style games in her honor; “Queen of Heaven” she was acclaimed lord & savior)

# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- Paul was there from 52-55 A.D. This church experienced a powerful move of God that impacted the community. That's why I want to preach through Ephesians. What can we learn from this church?



# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- Highlights:
- The Spirit comes with power when Paul lays hands on 12 disciples who are filled with the Spirit (Acts 19:1-7)
- Paul preaches in the Synagogues, and then in the lecture hall of Tyrannus (Acts 19:8-10)

# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- Highlights:
- The power of God was on display (Acts 19:11-12, “And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them.”  
(conversions; syncretism)

# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- Highlights:
- The turning point: The 7 sons of Sceva (Acts 19:11-20) (itinerant Jewish exorcists invoked the name of Jesus – his fame had spread) (fear fell upon them)
- Acts 19:18, “Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices.” (50,000 days wages; \$14M)



# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- Highlights:
- Demetrius the silversmith - “You know that from this business we have our wealth. And you see & hear that not only in Ephesus but in almost all of Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away a great many people, saying that gods made with hands are not gods.” (Acts 19:25-26)

# THE BLESSED LIFE:















# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- These are the makings of spiritual awakening that transform a community: (1) Believers are filled with the Spirit. (Luke 11:13) We must ask, seek & knock. The key to the Christian life is the Christ in us; the fullness of the Spirit. We need to walk in the current fullness of the Spirit.



# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- These are the makings of spiritual awakening that transform a community: (1) Believers are filled with the Spirit
- (2) There is a demonstration of spiritual power that draws attention to Jesus' name. The demonstration of power proved Jesus' Lordship. Exclusive thinking was not acceptable. Power proved the claims of exclusivity. (seek His face with a theology of power; gifts)

# THE BLESSED LIFE:

- These are the makings of spiritual awakening that transform a community:
- (3) A surrendered Church that breaks from syncretism with Jesus at the center. Acts 19:20, “In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.”  
(surrendered; filled & empowered)