

Gospel Journeys

- Summarise the whole to-ing and fro-ing!!
– just work through the passage with the maps!
- Note how all encompassing: **many people**, **over a prolonged period of time** - no passing phase in Paul's life!

Notes

- Imperfections gently corrected (18:24-28)
- Need for the Holy Spirit (Apollos, and also 19:1-7)
– note the confirmation of tongues and prophesy, that the Spirit has indeed come upon them, just as at Pentecost - an outward sign of the inward reality
– note also the 12 men, enough for a synagogue - ie, a valid new community of God's people
- All signs of the gospel spreading far and wide...

Gospel Confrontation

- Recap on incident in Ephesus in Acts 19:23-41
– sometime during Paul's long stay, it would seem at the end of it - the narrative is a bit confusing, since we have Paul's departure from Ephesus twice, at 19:21-22 and at 20:1
- But the important question that is arising on in the course of Paul's gospel presentations is this one:
- **Who is Lord?**
– this is ultimately what the Gospel is about!
– reinforced as I've been through Start! over recent weeks, with Thursday group and with YF on a Sunday night
– sin - Jesus is not Lord!
– coming to faith - Jesus is Lord!

Is Jesus Lord of all of our life?

- as we run up towards Christmas, to welcoming Jesus, ask ourselves that question
– of our conversations?
– of the topics of conversation?
– of the people we will make time to converse with?
– of the way we spend our time?
– of our choice of people to spend that time with? **The lonely, the outcast, the stranger...**
– of the way we spend our money?
- And critically, is Jesus Lord of us, our heart, our ambitions, our centre, our very selves?
– are those other areas properly reflective of our core?
– are we Jesus people, committed completely to him, devoted to him
– and so spending time with him in prayer, in his Word, with his people...
– is it truly, as we'll sing in a moment, **"all about you, Jesus"**?

*It's all about You, Jesus,
And all this is for You,
For Your glory and Your fame.
It's not about me,
As if You should do things my way;
You alone are God,
And I surrender to Your ways.*