

NOT THE HANDKERCHIEF

WEEK 4
Acts 19:8-12



"Music Time!"

Materials:

Mobile Phone or Computer or Stereo that can play Worship songs
Earphones or Headsets

Instruction to Parents: (2 minutes)

Pick a Worship song that the kids can relate

Let them listen using a headset or an earphone up to the Chorus line. Allow the kid/s to enjoy the song, undisturbed as much as possible.

Play another song and this time, listen to it directly from your music source.

Which did you like better - listening with headsets/earphones or without? Why?

Listening with headsets/earphones brings a different listening experience. You can hear the music as if it is just playing right beside you. But without the earphones, you can still hear the music. That's because the real source of the music was the mobile phone or computer or stereo. The earphones just helped us hear it closer to our ears but the earphones alone cannot play music. The real source of music is simply not the one near our ears.



Let's read Acts 19:8-18 to check out a story that sometimes confuses people of who the REAL source of power is.

11 God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.

17 When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor. 18 Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed what they had done.

In the story, the handkerchiefs and aprons were used to heal the sick and when people saw this, they forgot about the real source of the Power. On verse 11, the first two words were highlighted to emphasize that it was GOD who did the miracles and all the physical things were just results of His power. Without God's power, the handkerchief and aprons will remain to be normal things. Therefore, it is not these things that healed the sick but it was God.

Remember when you were listening to the song even without the earphones? The music was still there and you were still able to hear it. That is the same with the power of God. Even without things, He can create miracles and surely He doesn't need anything to show



Parent to Kid/s:

2-6 years old

- Do you think a handkerchief can have powers to heal the sick? Why?
- What will you do if someone gives it to you?

7-12 years old

- Have you ever had an object which you thought may bring good luck? It may be a necklace, a favorite pen you use for taking tests, a shirt you wear to play sports, anything. Tell us why you think it brings luck and when you use it.

Kid/s to Parent:

- Have you ever had any object that you thought was miraculous? Tell us about it. Do you still use it today?

Regardless of what we may think, objects do not possess any special or supernatural powers. All powers come from God and God alone. He is the one who performs miracles! And the best thing is, if we believe Him, He is with us and in us. Just like the apostle Paul, we can do amazing things if we allow God to work through us!



Dear Lord,

Thank You for reminding us that You are the ultimate source of power in every miracle we see. Help us to remove our reliance on physical things, but put our hope and trust in You alone. In Jesus' Name we pray

Amen.



Do you know that Ephesus, the city where Paul preached centuries ago and where our Bible story took place, is still standing today? It is a far cry from the glory it used to have as only the ancient structures and ruins can be seen today. But nonetheless, it still attracts more than a million tourists every year as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Do you wish to visit those places mentioned in the Bible one day? We can pray for that!

Some of the structures that you can still visit include :
the two-storey facade of the Library of Celsus, although not a single book survived.
The Great Theater, an impressive semi-circle structure that can seat 25,000 and where St. Paul is believed to have preached. It is still used today for live music performances.
Mary's House, believed to be where Mary, the mother of Jesus lived during the last years of her life.

**You can read about more of these structures here:

<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/turkey/aegean-coast/ephesus-efes/attractions/a/poi-sig/360864>

Such a wonder that all of these ruins survived the passage of time. Unfortunately, the civilization that lived and walked those roads did not. But God's power that healed people and did many miracles at that time is very much alive today, working through His people.

You can be one of those people, if you allow God to work through you!