

Pastor Todd Schlechty May 1, 2016 Moving Half Way There Acts 18:24-19:7

Have you ever been on a trip and only made it half way?

## Half Christian:

I. \_\_\_\_\_ half the Gospel.

Acts 18:24-28 Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures. 25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John; 26 and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. 27 And when he wanted to go across to Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him; and when he had arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, 28 for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

## Apollos vs. Paul:

- Both Jewish men who had come to faith in Jesus as Messiah.
- Both raised in diaspora (Tarsus, Cilicia & Apollos Alexandria, Egypt)
- Both experts on OT Scripture and how it reveals Jesus as Christ.
- But Apollos is described as eloquent (trained in rhetoric).

Apollos' Problem: He only knew ½ the gospel.

II.		half the	Gosi	pel.
-----	--	----------	------	------

Acts 19:1-7 It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples. 2 He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him, "No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." 3 And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism." 4 Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus." 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. 7 There were in all about twelve men.

Who is the Holy Spirit?

Breathe on us breath of God. Fill me with life anew. Till I may love the way you love and do what you would do. – Edwin Hatch

Point:

## **Doggy Bag:** Something to take home and chew on!

- Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? (Paul's question to the Ephesian disciples.)
- 2. When do you experience your faith as being ½ there? When do you experience your faith as more human effort than the work of God's Spirit?
- 3. What would it look like to go further into a relationship with God through the Holy Spirit?

To talk personally and confidentially about your relationship with Christ, please email Pastor Todd (pastortodd@thevineva.org) or Pastor Kris (krisbeckert@thevineva.org).

