

Correspondence Bible Study

Lesson #37 – The Book Of Acts

PRAYER:

Lord of the Church, I thank you that I have been shown Your grace through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. Enable me to be a bold witness for Jesus in all that I say and do. Give to me the words of Peter and the faith of Paul. Show me ways to have the gospel reach all the corners of the earth. Help me to share the gospel with my family and neighbors. It is in the all-powerful name of Jesus that I pray. Amen.

Notes on Acts:

Acts is the second half of Luke's careful description of the life of Jesus and the results of that Good News being preached by men empowered by His Holy Spirit. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (1:8), serves as the outline for the entire book. From a small group of Jewish believers huddled in Jerusalem the Church would spread out into the world and soon be dominated by Gentile believers. The unmistakable force behind this miraculous geographical, spiritual and ethnic growth is, of course, the Holy Spirit. The circumstances, the time and setting were unique. The people and the gifts necessary to accomplish the fete were all supplied by the Lord of the Church. We can learn many things about evangelism and witnessing from a careful study of Acts.

Questions on Acts:

1. Chapter 1:6 - What did the disciples still not understand about Christ's Kingdom according to this question?
2. Chapters 1:8 – If Jesus were talking to you, here and now, how might He explain the growth of outreach? What geographical names might He use?
3. Keep a list here of the different ways that the disciples and believers "received power" when the Holy Spirit came to them?

4. Chapter 2 – Pentecost was a traditional Jewish holiday celebrating the spring harvest of the winter grain. The Old Testament dispersions of 722 B.C. and 586 B.C. had spread the Jews all over the civilized world. For Pentecost they came to Jerusalem. Even before Paul started his first journey with the gospel, Jews who had been baptized on Pentecost took the gospel home with them and started Christian congregations. The command of 1:8 was quickly fulfilled. In 2:39, how are you included in the words of Peter's Pentecost sermon?

5. Chapter 2:42-47 – List some ways we can do similar things today in our church.

6. After the Pentecost event, the disciples better understood the true meaning of Christ's death and resurrection. Read 2:14-40; 3:12-26; 4:1-22; 5:29-32; 7:1-60; 8:32-35. What was the clear message given?

7. Chapter 6:1-7 – What are some similar delegation of responsibilities in the church today?

8. Chapter 8:1 – How did the church benefit from persecution?

9. Chapter 9:1-19 – Why do you think the Lord would pick someone like Saul (Paul) to be his great missionary disciple?

10. Chapter 10 and 11 – What was the great significance of Peter's vision for the growth of the Church?

11. On the attached map, mark out the journeys of Paul.

First – 13:4 - 14:28

Second – 15:39 - 18:22

Third – 18:23 - 21:17

Trials and trip to Rome 21:18 – End of book

12. Pick out one important event from each of the journeys of Paul.

First:

Second:

Third:

Trials:

Trip to Rome:

13. Chapter 15 – Why was the decision of the Council of Jerusalem so important for the Church throughout the ages? (See 15:11)

Your question on Acts...

Begin to read Romans

