

Journeying through Acts – Summer 2024 – Notes sheet

Overview - Our Mission statement is summarised as "Growing Jesus' Kingdom together".

The Book of Acts chronicles the growth of the Kingdom of God (and the Church) from a handful of faithful believers, to a movement that grew out from Jerusalem, to Judea, to Samaria, to Rome and beyond, and ultimately to the 1-2 billion believers around the world today. It also records God breaking down of cultural barriers showing that the Gospel of Jesus is open to everyone.

As we look at this book we will see both the History of the early church movement, but also the method's and gifts that God used to grow His kingdom, through this most unlikely group of people. As we do so, we will also see that God can and will use the same methods, and gives us the same gifts to grow His kingdom in our own lives, in our community, and in our places of work too.

Historically this book was referred to as 'The Acts of the Apostles', but it may be more appropriate for it to be called "**The Acts of the Holy Spirit**", because it is the Holy Spirit that both leads, and equips the Apostles to establish God's kingdom, a pattern that continues today.

Some Questions to answer each week...

1) **Date** _____?

2) **Which part of Acts** (eg. Acts 2:1-20) _____?

3) **Journey** - Where has the church got to? (eg. Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, Rome?)

_____?

4) **How?** - is the Holy Spirit growing the church/kingdom? What can we learn for today?

_____?

5) **Who?** - is the being invited/told the gospel? Men, women, Jews, Romans, Greeks, slaves, free, governors etc

?

6) **What can we learn for today?** - (e.g. The Spirit leads us in mission, healing etc as part of life and outreach, call to pray, no-one is beyond Gods calling (Saul), faithfulness is costly (persecution and rejection) etc)

?

7) **Anything else that seems important?**

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It's not the church of God who has a mission, it's the missionary God who has a church!



