



## **The Book of Acts**

**Overview:** Acts is divided into 28 chapters, chronicling a history of the early church after the death and resurrection of Jesus. Throughout the text, we see the apostles grow into their own in ministry. The apostles had a huge responsibility (as do we), and their paths were rarely, if ever, easy. We can learn a lot from studying the early church and how the apostles witnessed throughout their lives.

### **Instructions:**

We suggest that you divide the chapters of Acts up into reading assignments based on the meeting schedule and reading pace of your group. Then, discuss what you are reading and learning during your meetings! You might decide to have one of you responsible for recapping the reading each time you meet. If you would like to follow along with the sermon series, please see the outline below for the text that will be covered each week. The text and questions will be updated every 4 weeks.

### **Week 1:**

- Reading: Acts 1:1-2
- Question: Jesus laid the foundation for the church to minister to an evil world. How has He prepared us to minister to a challenging world today? Are you actively ministering to others in your life?

### **Week 2:**

- Reading: Acts 1
- Question: In Acts 1:6 the disciples asked Jesus whether He would at this time restore the Kingdom of Israel. Jesus instead said “you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.” That is a big responsibility! How are you carrying out that responsibility in your life? Who are 3 people specifically that you would like to witness to, and what is your plan to do so?

### **Week 3:**

- Reading: Acts 2:1-41
- Question: Truth should never be compromised in favor of cultural acceptance. Are you tempted to compromise truth in favor of acceptance? If so, how can your community group help you change this pattern today?

#### **Week 4:**

- Reading: Acts 2:42-47
- Question: Acts 2:42-47 provides a beautiful image of community and fellowship in the early church. How can we strive for this kind of community today?

Please remember, you need not be limited by these questions! The goal of all of these studies is that we would be devoting daily to our relationship with Jesus: getting into a habit of regularly studying His word and responding to His teachings in our lives. How you do that is entirely dependent on your group!

The following are general resources we recommend to everyone who is studying the Bible.

- A good **study Bible!** This is essential. For example, the ESV study Bible is available for the purchase online.
- A **concordance** (e.g. Strongs exhaustive concordance): A concordance is an alphabetical list of words that allows you to search for words in the Bible. For example, if you wanted to study prayer, you could look up "prayer" in the concordance and it would provide every instance of where "prayer" appears in Scripture!
- **Holman's Bible Dictionary**
- **A journal:** This may seem simple, but it's really important. Journaling often helps us to be more intentional about our Bible study and record what God is teaching us throughout various points in our lives.

If you have questions about any of these resources, or would like to know more about where to access them, please feel free to reach out anytime!