

ACTS PART I



WITNESS

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WELCOME

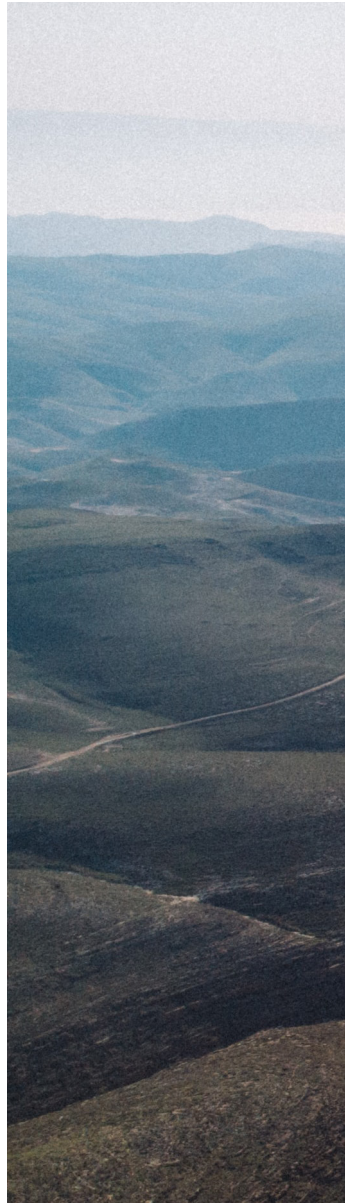
God's Word is flawless (Proverbs 30:5), it is from Him (2 Timothy 3:16), it is right (Psalm 33:4), it gives us hope (Psalm 119:49), and it builds us up (Acts 20:32). Just right there you have five terrific reasons to dive deeply into God's Word!

My great hope as you engage God's Word this semester in the stirring and powerful New Testament book of Acts is that His Word will grip your heart and that you will be built up by His Word of grace. Enjoy the inheritance received by being in His gracious Scriptures!

I am so grateful for Highland's love of the Word. I am so grateful for the labors of authorship, editing and love that produced this Highland curriculum. And I am grateful that the Father has given His Son, His Spirit and His Word to His people.

Joyfully yours,

JOHN DURHAM
LEAD PASTOR
HIGHLAND BAPTIST, WACO





THE INDUCTIVE STUDY METHOD

A method of study that uses the Bible as its primary source and follows three steps:

1. Observation: answers the question, “What does the text say?”

a. “*Interrogate the text*” as you read, by asking the five W’s and an H: Who, What, When, Where, Why and How?

b. As you read a passage, look for or mark *key words and phrases*. A key word or phrase is one that is repeated throughout a passage; if it were removed, the meaning of the text would be lost. You can also mark references to time, geographic locations, contrasts & comparisons and terms of conclusion.

c. *Make a list*. List your observations of the key word(s) that you marked. At this stage you are not writing down what you think the text means, but simply recording what it says.

2. Interpretation: answers the question, “What does the text mean?”

a. Consider the context: We interpret passages by looking at surrounding verses, chapters, and ultimately the whole counsel of God’s Word. Historical and cultural context is also key to determining the meaning of a passage.

b. Cross-references: Scripture itself is best at interpreting Scripture. The Bible never contradicts itself. When a verse or passage interests you or is difficult to understand, looking up other passages can add to your understanding. You can find cross-references by looking in the margin of your study Bible or by using one of the study tools we recommend in the Appendix.

c. Word studies: The Bible was written in Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic. Often the English language cannot capture the depth of meaning that was originally intended by the author. Looking up a word or phrase in the original language can shed light on the author’s intended meaning.

3. Application: answers the questions, “What does the passage reveal about God?” and “How does this passage apply to my life?”

This step involves having a heart that not only seeks to discern God's Word, but also to let it "discern" us. *"For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."*
(Hebrews 4:12)

THE STRUCTURE OF THIS STUDY

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

This section includes optional tools to use as you observe the primary text for the week, such as marking and listing key words and phrases. The colors and symbols are merely suggestions. If you choose to mark key words, feel free to use the colors and/or symbols of your choice.

HOMEWORK

Days 1-4 are dedicated to observation and interpretation. The more time you spend observing a passage, the easier it will be to interpret. At the end of each week's lesson (Weeks 2-11) you will find a print-out of the primary chapter(s) for the week.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

This is a second **optional** section with additional cross-references and words studies. We recommend using blueletterbible.org or biblestudytools.com.

DAY FIVE

Day 5 contains application questions for you to work through on your own after completing the homework. These questions will then be covered during your table discussion.

LESSON ONE MEMORIZATION

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

WITNESS LESSON ONE

ACTS ONE

THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, 2 until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3 He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

THE ASCENSION

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord,

will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

MATTHIAS CHOSEN TO REPLACE JUDAS

12 Then they returned to

Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. 13 And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. 14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

15 In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, 16 "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. 17 For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." 18 (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. 19 And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) 20 "For it is written in the Book of

Psalms,

"May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it"; and

"Let another take his office."

21 So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." 23 And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen 25 to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." 26 And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

LESSON ONE ACTS ONE

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 1, mark
references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then,
when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities,
regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 1, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapter.
2. Begin lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from this chapter. Record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 1:8.



BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER
WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS
COME UPON YOU, AND YOU WILL
BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM
AND IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA,
AND TO THE END OF THE EARTH.
ACTS 1:8

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 1:1-5.

1. To whom was the book of Acts written? (v. 1)
2. For how many days after His resurrection did Jesus appear to His disciples? (v. 3)
3. What were Jesus' instructions to the disciples while He was staying with them? (v. 4)

Read Acts 1:6-11.

4. When the apostles met together with Jesus, what did they ask Him? (v. 6)
5. What was Jesus' response? (v. 7)

6. What would be the result of the Holy Spirit's coming? (v. 8)

7. After Jesus told His disciples to whom they should witness, what happened? (v. 9)

8. What did the white-robed men tell the apostles would happen? (v. 11)

Read Acts 1:12-26.

9. What did these men of Galilee who watched Jesus' ascension do after returning to Jerusalem?
(vv. 13-14)

10. How many were present? (v. 15)

11. How did Judas die? (v. 18) Look up Matthew 27:5 to help with your answer.

12. How was Matthias elected as an apostle in Judas the Lord's betrayer's place? (v. 24-26)

DAY THREE

Interpret

Read Acts 1:1-5 again.

1. Who wrote the book of Acts? Read Luke 1:1-4 to help with your answer.
2. Acts is the second book written by this author. What did the author's first book cover? (Acts 1:2-3)
3. Read Matthew 28:16-20. Record the command Jesus gave in these verses.
4. Jesus tells the disciples not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father (v. 4-5). Read the following cross-references and record what you learn about the promise of the Father.

Luke 24:49

John 14:26

Acts 2:33

5. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about the Holy Spirit.

John 14:16-17

John 16:5-8, 12-14

6. Look up the Greek word translated “baptized” in verse 5 and record what you learn below.

7. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3:11

John 3:5

Acts 2:38

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

8. Take a few moments to reflect on what the Lord has shown you so far this week. Use the space below to write a prayer of response to Him.

DAY FOUR

Interpret

Read Acts 1:6-12 again.

1. Where did the ascension of Jesus happen? (v. 12)
2. Read Zechariah 14:1-4, 9 and record what you learn about the Second Coming of Jesus.

Read Acts 1:12-26 again.

3. Who was present at the prayer meeting in the upper room in Jerusalem? (v. 13-14)
4. What were the criteria for becoming an apostle? (v. 21-22)
5. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about casting lots.

Numbers 33:54

Joshua 18:6-10

1 Chronicles 25:8-9

Matthew 27:35

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about David's prophecy concerning Judas.

Psalms 41:9

Psalms 55:12-15

Psalms 69:25

Psalms 109:8

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What have you learned or been reminded about God's character this week?
2. How have you seen these aspects of His character at work in your life?
3. We have seen this week that God was faithful to His promise to send the Holy Spirit. How does God's faithfulness to this promise affect the way you live your life?
4. Where has God called you to be His witness? Think through your home, neighborhood, workplace, city, etc.

NOTES

NOTES

LESSON TWO MEMORIZATION

“And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

Acts 2:38

WITNESS LESSON TWO

ACTS TWO

THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. 7 And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" 8 And how is it that we hear, each

of us in his own native language? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, 11 both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians--we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." 12 And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

PETER'S SERMON AT PENTECOST

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. 15 For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of

the day. 16 But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

17 “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; 18 even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. 19 And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; 20 the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. 21 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

22 “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know-- 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. 24 God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death,

because it was not possible for him to be held by it. 25 For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; 26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. 27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

29 “Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, 31 he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. 33 Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. 34 For David did not

ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, 35 until I make your enemies your footstool.’

36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

37 Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” 38 And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” 40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” 41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BELIEVERS

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.



LESSON TWO ACTS TWO

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 2, mark
references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then,
when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities,
regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 2, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapter.
2. Add to your lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from this chapter. You can record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 2:38.



AND PETER SAID TO THEM,
"REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED
EVERY ONE OF YOU IN THE
NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE
FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SINS, AND
YOU WILL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF
THE HOLY SPIRIT."

ACTS 2:38

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 2:1-13.

1. Who does “they” refer to in 2:1? Read Acts 1:15 to help with your answer.
2. On what day were the believers gathered together? (v. 1)
3. Describe what happened when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples. (vv. 2-3)
4. What was the result of His coming? (v. 4)
5. Who was dwelling in Jerusalem at this time? (v. 5)
6. Why were the people bewildered and amazed? (vv. 6-13)

Read Acts 2:14-36.

7. How did Peter respond to the people's astonishment? (vv. 14-15)

8. Describe the prophecy that Peter references in this moment. (vv. 17-21)

9. How did Peter describe Jesus? (vv. 22-24)

10. What had David prophesied? (vv. 25-28)

11. How did Peter argue that David was prophesying about Jesus? (vv. 29-32)

12. Of what were the apostles witnesses? (v. 32)

13. Where is Jesus now and what has He done? (v. 33-36)

Read Acts 2:1-13.

14. What effect did Peter's words have on the people? (v. 37)

15. How did Peter shepherd the people in this moment? (vv. 38-41)

16. How many souls were added as disciples of Christ that day? (v. 41)

17. In the space below, describe the behavior of these new believers. (vv. 42-47)

DAY THREE

Interpret

Look back at Acts 2:1-4.

1. Look up the Greek word translated as “wind” in Acts 2:2 and record the definition below.

Read Acts 1:8.

2. When would Jesus’ disciples receive power?
3. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about the parallels God draws between His Spirit and wind or breath.

Ezekiel 37:9-14

John 3:8

Acts 17:25

4. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about the parallels between God's presence and fire.

Genesis 15:17

Exodus 3:2-6

Exodus 13:21-22

Exodus 19:18

Exodus 24:17

Read Acts 2:9-11.

5. What were the people talking about? (v. 11)

6. How were they speaking these things? (v. 11)

Read John 16:7-15, a recording of Jesus' words to His disciples before His death, resurrection, and ascension.

7. Why was it to the disciples' advantage that Jesus ascended to heaven? (v. 7)

8. What would the Holy Spirit do after Jesus sent Him to His disciples? (vv. 8-11)

9. How would the Holy Spirit speak? (vv. 13-15)

10. Who would He glorify? (vv. 14-15)

11. Take a few moments to reflect on what the Lord has shown you so far this week. Use the space below to write a prayer of response to Him.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

To learn more about Pentecost (also known as the Feast of Weeks and the Feast of Harvest), look up Exodus 34:22-23, Leviticus 23:15-21, and Deuteronomy 16:10. Record what you observe in the space below.

DAY FOUR

Interpret

Read Acts 2:42-47 again.

1. What came upon the believers? (v. 43)
2. Look up the word “awe” in the original Greek and record the definition below.
3. What was being done through the apostles? (v. 43)
4. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about the fellowship of believers in Christ.

John 17:20-23

Hebrews 10:24-25

1 John 1:3-4, 7

5. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about breaking bread.

Luke 22:14-23

Acts 20:7

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

6. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about prayer.

Acts 4:31

Acts 6:4

Romans 12:12

7. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about generosity.

Proverbs 11:24-25

Isaiah 58:6-12

Luke 12:33-34

Acts 4:34-37

Acts 11:29

Exodus 40:38

Luke 3:16

Romans 12:12

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What have you learned or been reminded about God's character this week?
2. How have you seen these aspects of His character at work in your life?
3. Is there evidence in your life of the Spirit's work? Do you see Him glorifying Christ through you?
4. Take a moment to examine your relationships, habits, and lifestyle. Could your devotion be described as being similar to that of the believers in Acts 2? Why or why not?

NOTES

NOTES

LESSON THREE MEMORIZATION

“Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus...”

Acts 3:19-20

WITNESS LESSON THREE

ACTS THREE

THE LAME BEGGAR HEALED

1 Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. 2 And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. 3 Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. 4 And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." 5 And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. 6 But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" 7 And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. 8 And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising

God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God, 10 and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

PETER SPEAKS IN SOLOMON'S PORTICO

11 While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. 12 And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? 13 The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided

to release him. 14 But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, 15 and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. 16 And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

17 “And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18 But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. 19 Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, 20 that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, 21 whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago. 22 Moses said, ‘The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. 23 And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.’ 24 And all the prophets who

have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. 25 You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.’ 26 God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness.”

LESSON THREE ACTS THREE

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 3, mark
references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then,
when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities,
regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 3, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapter.
2. Add to your lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from this chapter. You can record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 3:19-20.



REPENT THEREFORE, AND TURN
BACK, THAT YOUR SINS MAY BE
BLOTTED OUT, THAT TIMES OF
REFRESHING MAY COME FROM
THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD,
AND THAT HE MAY SEND THE
CHRIST APPOINTED FOR YOU,
JESUS...

ACTS 3:19-20

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 3:1-10.

1. Where were Peter and John going? (v. 1)
2. Describe the state of the man mentioned in verse 2.
3. Why was he brought to the temple gate?
4. What did the man expect when he looked at Peter and John? (vv. 3-5)
5. What did Peter give to the man instead? (v. 6)
6. What happened to the man's feet and ankles and how did he respond to what took place? (vv. 7-8)

7. How did the people react when they saw and heard him? (vv. 9-10)

Read Acts 3:11-26.

8. While the man clung to Peter and John, what did the people do? (v. 11)

9. How did Peter respond to the people's wonder at what he and John had done? (v. 12)

10. What did Peter accuse the Jews of doing to Jesus? (vv. 13-15)

11. Who witnessed these actions? (v. 15)

12. What had given this man perfect health? (v. 16)

13. Though they had acted in ignorance (v. 17), how did Peter call the Jewish people to respond to what they had done? (v. 19)

14. What would take place as a result of this response? (vv. 19-21)

15. In the space below, list what you learn about the prophets in verses 21-25.

16. To whom did God first send Jesus? Why? (v. 26)

DAY THREE

Interpret

Read Acts 3 again.

1. In Whose name did Peter and John heal the man? (v. 6)

Read Acts 4:7-10.

2. To Whom do Peter and John attribute this miracle? (v. 10)

3. Read John 5:1-15 and summarize the events in the space below.

4. Read Isaiah 35:4-7. What would happen to the lame man at the Messiah's coming? (v. 6)

4a. How did Jesus fulfill Isaiah's prophecy? What did His actions proclaim about His authority?

5. Read Matthew 10:1-15 to find out how His disciples received the authority to heal the lame.

5a. Who did Jesus call to Himself? (vv. 1-4)

5b. What authority did He give them? (v. 1)

5c. To whom did Jesus instruct His disciples to go? Include how He describes them. (v. 6)

6. Read Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8. What had been given to Jesus? (Matt. 28:18)

7. Look up the Greek word translated as “power” in Acts 1:8 and record the definition below. Refer to the Appendix to learn how to look up cross-references.

8. Reflect on what the Lord has shown you today. Use the space below to write a prayer of response to what you have learned about His character.

DAY FOUR

Interpret

Read Acts 3:11-26.

1. Read the following cross-references and record what you learn about the events leading up to Christ's death.

Matthew 20:17-19

John 18:33-19:16

2. What does Peter claim in Acts 3:15? How does he know these things to be true?

3. Look at Acts 3:19-20. Look up the Greek word we translate as "repent" in verse 19 and record its meaning below.

4. Read Luke 24:46-48. What did Jesus tell His disciples must be proclaimed in His name?

4a. With whom were the apostles to begin? (v. 47)

5. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn from the apostles about repentance.

Peter: Acts 2:37-38

Paul: Acts 20:18-21

Paul: Acts 26:19-20

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What has God taught or reminded you about Himself this week?
2. How have you witnessed the authority of Christ in your own heart and life?
3. In what ways is God calling you to repent and turn back from your sins?



NOTES

NOTES

LESSON FOUR MEMORIZATION

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4:12

WITNESS LESSON FOUR

ACTS FOUR

PETER AND JOHN BEFORE THE COUNCIL

1 And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, 2 greatly annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. 3 And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. 4 But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

5 On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, 6 with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. 7 And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” 8

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, 9 if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, 10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. 11 This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. 12 And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been

with Jesus. 14 But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. 15 But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, 16 saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. 17 But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.” 18 So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, 20 for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.” 21 And when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way to punish them, because of the people, for all were praising God for what had happened. 22 For the man on whom this sign of healing was performed was more than forty years old.

THE BELIEVERS PRAY FOR BOLDNESS

23 When they were released, they went to their friends and reported

what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. 24 And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, 25 who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

“‘Why did the Gentiles rage,
and the peoples plot in vain?

26 The kings of the earth set
themselves,

and the rulers were gathered
together,

against the Lord and against his
Anointed’—

27 for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, 28 to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. 29 And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, 30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” 31 And when they had prayed, the place in which

they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

THEY HAD EVERYTHING IN COMMON

32 Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. 33 And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold 35 and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. 36 Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, 37 sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.



LESSON FOUR ACTS FOUR

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 4, mark
references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then,
when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities,
regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 4, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapter.
2. Add to your lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from this chapter. You can record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 4:12.



“AND THERE IS SALVATION IN
NO ONE ELSE, FOR THERE IS NO
OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN
GIVEN AMONG MEN BY WHICH
WE MUST BE SAVED.”
ACTS 4:12

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 4:1-22.

1. Who was speaking to the people? (v. 1) Read Acts 3:11-12 to help with your answer.
2. Why did the religious leader come upon them? (v. 2)
3. What did they do to the disciples? (v. 3)
4. What was the fruit of the disciples' teaching? (v. 4)
5. What happened the next day? (vv. 5-7)
6. In the space below, summarize Peter's response. (vv. 8-12)

7. Why were the examiners astonished? (v. 13)

8. What did they decide to do with Peter and John? (vv. 14-18)

9. How did Peter and John respond? (vv. 19-21)

Read Acts 4:23-37.

10. What did Peter and John do when they were released? (v. 23)

11. Summarize the prayer of their friends. (vv. 24-30)

12. What happened when they had finished praying? (v. 31)

13. How were the new believers interacting with one another? (v. 32)

14. How were the apostles giving their testimony to the resurrection? (v. 33)

15. How were the needs of the new believers met? (vv. 34-37)

DAY THREE

Observe

Look at Acts 4 again.

1. Read Matthew 22:23-34 to see Jesus' interactions with the Sadducees. The same incident is recorded in Mark 12:18-27 and Luke 20:27-40. Record what you learn in the space below.

2. *Look back at Acts 4:2.* Why were they so annoyed at the apostles teaching?

3. Look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about the reality of suffering and persecution:

Matthew 5:10-11

Matthew 10:16-18

Matthew 24:9

John 15:18-25

Mark 10:29-30

Philippians 1:29

Revelation 2:10-11

4. Now that you know that persecution is coming, look up the following cross-references and record what you learn about how to respond when suffering comes.

Romans 5:1-5

James 1:1-12

1 Peter 5:10

5. The response of the believers in Acts 4 was to rejoice and pray for boldness. Take a few moments to ask the Lord to give you boldness in the face of persecution and suffering.

DAY FOUR

Apply

Read Acts 4:32-37 again.

In light of these verses let's consider and act on three things today.

1. Consider how you can meet the need of a fellow brother or sister in Christ today and do it. Share the result with your group.

2. Consider someone who needs to hear your powerful testimony of the gospel today and share it with them. Talk about the result with your group.

3. Consider what you can lay down at the feet of Jesus today and do it. Share the result with your group.

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What have you learned or been reminded about God's character this week?
2. How have you seen these aspects of His character at work in your life?
3. In what ways have you seen or experienced persecution for the sake of the gospel?
4. In what ways have you proclaimed the good news with boldness?

NOTES

NOTES

LESSON FIVE MEMORIZATION

“God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Acts 5:31-32

WITNESS LESSON FIVE

ACTS FIVE

ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA

1 But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, 2 and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God." 5 When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it. 6 The young men rose and wrapped him up and carried him out and buried him.

7 After an interval of about

three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. 8 And Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much." And she said, "Yes, for so much." 9 But Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." 10 Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. When the young men came in they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. 11 And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things.

MANY SIGNS AND WONDERS DONE

12 Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the

apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. 13 None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. 14 And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, 15 so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. 16 The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

THE APOSTLES ARRESTED AND FREED

17 But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy 18 they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. 19 But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, 20 "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." 21 And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council, all the

senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. 22 But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, 23 "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." 24 Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. 25 And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." 26 Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, 28 saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." 29 But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. 30 The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging

him on a tree. 31 God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

33 When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. 34 But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. 35 And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. 36 For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. 37 After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. 38 So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; 39 but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they

took his advice, 40 and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. 42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

ACTS SIX

SEVEN CHOSEN TO SERVE

1 Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. 2 And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. 3 Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. 4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” 5 And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. 6 These they set before the apostles,

and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

7 And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

STEPHEN IS SEIZED

8 And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people.

9 Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. 10 But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. 11 Then they secretly instigated men who said, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses

and God.” 12 And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, 13 and they set up false witnesses who said, “This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, 14 for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us.” 15 And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.





LESSON FIVE ACTS FIVE & SIX

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 5 & 6, mark
references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then,
when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities,
regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 5 & 6, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapters.

2. Add to your lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from these chapters. You can record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 5:31-32.



“GOD EXALTED HIM AT HIS RIGHT
HAND AS LEADER AND SAVIOR, TO
GIVE REPENTANCE TO ISRAEL AND
FORGIVENESS OF SINS. AND WE ARE
WITNESSES TO THESE THINGS, AND
SO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHOM GOD
HAS GIVEN TO THOSE WHO OBEY
HIM.”

ACTS 5:31-32

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 5:1-11 again.

1. Look in the appendix at “How to look up a cross-reference.” Find at least three passages that highlight God’s desire for worship that comes from the heart (i.e. 1 Samuel 16:7). Write down the references that you find and what you learn from them in the space below.

1.

2.

3.

2. As you are able, get on your knees before the Lord. In prayer, respond to what God has taught you today through His Word.

DAY THREE

Observe

Read Acts 6:1-7 again.

1. Look in the appendix at “How to look up a cross-reference.” Find at least three passages that highlight God’s desire for His disciples to build up the church (i.e. Ephesians 4:11-12). Write down the references that you find and what you learn from them in the space below.

1.

2.

3.

2. As you are able, get on your knees before the Lord. In prayer, respond to what God has taught you today about His character.

DAY FOUR

Apply

Read Acts 5:17-41 and 6:8-15 again.

1. Look in the appendix at “How to look up a cross-reference.” Find at least three passages that highlight God’s desire for His people to rejoice even in the midst of persecution (i.e. Matthew 5:10-12). Write down the references that you find and what you learn from them in the space below.

1.

2.

3.

2. As you are able, get on your knees before the Lord. In prayer, respond to what God has taught you today about joy in the midst of suffering.

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What have you learned about God's character this week?
2. How have you seen these aspects of His character at work in your life?
3. How have you worshiped God from the heart?
4. How have you built up the Church?
5. How have you rejoiced in suffering?

LESSON SIX MEMORIZATION

“But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, ‘Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.’”

Acts 7:55-56

WITNESS LESSON SIX

ACTS SEVEN

STEPHEN'S SPEECH

1 And the high priest said, "Are these things so?"

2 And Stephen said:

"Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, 3 and said to him, 'Go out from your land and from your kindred and go into the land that I will show you.' 4 Then he went out from the land of the Chaldeans and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living. 5 Yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him as a possession and to his offspring after him, though he had no child. 6 And God spoke to this effect—that his offspring would be sojourners in a land belonging to others, who would enslave them

and afflict them four hundred years. 7 'But I will judge the nation that they serve,' said God, 'and after that they shall come out and worship me in this place.' 8 And he gave him the covenant of circumcision. And so Abraham became the father of Isaac, and circumcised him on the eighth day, and Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob of the twelve patriarchs.

9 "And the patriarchs, jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt; but God was with him 10 and rescued him out of all his afflictions and gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt, who made him ruler over Egypt and over all his household. 11 Now there came a famine throughout all Egypt and Canaan, and great affliction, and our fathers could find no food. 12 But when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent out our fathers

on their first visit. 13 And on the second visit Joseph made himself known to his brothers, and Joseph's family became known to Pharaoh.

14 And Joseph sent and summoned Jacob his father and all his kindred, seventy-five persons in all. 15

And Jacob went down into Egypt, and he died, he and our fathers, 16 and they were carried back to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham had bought for a sum of silver from the sons of Hamor in Shechem.

17 "But as the time of the promise drew near, which God had granted to Abraham, the people increased and multiplied in Egypt 18 until there arose over Egypt another king who did not know Joseph. 19 He dealt shrewdly with our race and forced our fathers to expose their infants, so that they would not be kept alive. 20 At this time Moses was born; and he was beautiful in God's sight. And he was brought up for three months in his father's house, 21 and when he was exposed, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and brought him up as her own son. 22 And Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and deeds.

23 "When he was forty years old,

it came into his heart to visit his brothers, the children of Israel.

24 And seeing one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian.

25 He supposed that his brothers would understand that God was giving them salvation by his hand, but they did not understand.

26 And on the following day he appeared to them as they were quarreling and tried to reconcile them, saying, 'Men, you are brothers. Why do you wrong each other?' 27 But the man who was wronging his neighbor thrust him aside, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? 28 Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?' 29 At this retort Moses fled and became an exile in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

30 "Now when forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush.

31 When Moses saw it, he was amazed at the sight, and as he drew near to look, there came the voice of the Lord: 32 'I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob.' And Moses trembled and did not dare to look. 33 Then

the Lord said to him, ‘Take off the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. 34 I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their groaning, and I have come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send you to Egypt.’

35 “This Moses, whom they rejected, saying, ‘Who made you a ruler and a judge?’—this man God sent as both ruler and redeemer by the hand of the angel who appeared to him in the bush. 36 This man led them out, performing wonders and signs in Egypt and at the Red Sea and in the wilderness for forty years. 37 This is the Moses who said to the Israelites, ‘God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers.’ 38 This is the one who was in the congregation in the wilderness with the angel who spoke to him at Mount Sinai, and with our fathers. He received living oracles to give to us. 39 Our fathers refused to obey him, but thrust him aside, and in their hearts they turned to Egypt, 40 saying to Aaron, ‘Make for us gods who will go before us. As for this Moses who led us out from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ 41 And they made a

calf in those days, and offered a sacrifice to the idol and were rejoicing in the works of their hands. 42 But God turned away and gave them over to worship the host of heaven, as it is written in the book of the prophets:

“‘Did you bring to me slain beasts and sacrifices,
during the forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel?
43 You took up the tent of Moloch
and the star of your god
Rephan,
the images that you made to
worship;
and I will send you into exile
beyond Babylon.’

44 “Our fathers had the tent of witness in the wilderness, just as he who spoke to Moses directed him to make it, according to the pattern that he had seen. 45 Our fathers in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our fathers. So it was until the days of David, 46 who found favor in the sight of God and asked to find a dwelling place for the God of Jacob.[a] 47 But it was Solomon who built a house for him. 48 Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made by hands, as the prophet says,

49 “Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool.
What kind of house will you build
for me, says the Lord,
or what is the place of my rest?
50 Did not my hand make all these
things?”

51 “You stiff-necked people,
uncircumcised in heart and ears,
you always resist the Holy Spirit.
As your fathers did, so do you.
52 Which of the prophets did
your fathers not persecute? And
they killed those who announced
beforehand the coming of the
Righteous One, whom you have
now betrayed and murdered,
53 you who received the law as
delivered by angels and did not
keep it.”

THE STONING OF STEPHEN

54 Now when they heard these
things they were enraged, and they
ground their teeth at him. 55 But
he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed
into heaven and saw the glory of
God, and Jesus standing at the
right hand of God. 56 And he said,
“Behold, I see the heavens opened,
and the Son of Man standing at
the right hand of God.” 57 But
they cried out with a loud voice
and stopped their ears and rushed
together[b] at him. 58 Then they

cast him out of the city and stoned
him. And the witnesses laid down
their garments at the feet of a
young man named Saul. 59 And
as they were stoning Stephen, he
called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my
spirit.” 60 And falling to his knees
he cried out with a loud voice,
“Lord, do not hold this sin against
them.” And when he had said this,
he fell asleep.

ACTS EIGHT

SAUL RAVAGES THE CHURCH

1 And Saul approved of his execution.

And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. 2 Devout men buried Stephen and made great lamentation over him. 3 But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison.

PHILIP PROCLAIMS CHRIST IN SAMARIA

4 Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. 5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. 6 And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when

they heard him and saw the signs that he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. 8 So there was much joy in that city.

SIMON THE MAGICIAN BELIEVES

9 But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. 10 They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, “This man is the power of God that is called Great.” 11 And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. 12 But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and

women. 13 Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.

14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. 18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! 21 You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. 22 Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. 23 For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and

in the bond of iniquity." 24 And Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

25 Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south[f] to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. 27 And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he

was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter

and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,

so he opens not his mouth.

33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

34 And the eunuch said to Philip,

“About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” 35 Then

Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.

36 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” 38 And he

commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried

Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel



LESSON SIX

ACTS SEVEN & EIGHT

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 7 & 8, mark
references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then,
when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities,
regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 7 & 8, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapters.
2. Add to your lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from these chapters. You can record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 7:55-56.



BUT HE, FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
GAZED INTO HEAVEN AND SAW
THE GLORY OF GOD, AND JESUS
STANDING AT THE RIGHT HAND
OF GOD. AND HE SAID, "BEHOLD,
I SEE THE HEAVENS OPENED, AND
THE SON OF MAN STANDING AT
THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD."

ACTS 7:55-56

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 7:1-50.

1. These verses contain Stephen’s argument before the council. Fill in the chart below, summarizing how Stephen portrayed God’s faithfulness to each important man in Israel’s history.

	How God showed Himself faithful
Abraham (vv. 2-8)	
Joseph (vv. 9-19)	
Moses (vv. 20-44)	

4. How is Stephen described in verse 55?

5. What two things did Stephen see in verses 55-56?

6. A young man is introduced in verse 58 and in Acts 8:1 and 3. Who is he and what do you learn about him?

7. What happens to the church in Jerusalem after the death of Stephen? (vv. 1, 4)

DAY THREE

Observe

Read Acts 8:4-8.

1. Who was Philip? Read Acts 1:13 and 6:3-5 to help you with your answer.
2. Where did Philip go and what did he do? (vv. 5-7) Locate this on your map.
3. What was the response of the people in the city? (v. 8)

Read Acts 8:9-25.

4. Summarize Simon's conversion experience. (vv. 9-13)
5. Why were Peter and John sent to Samaria? What did they do when they got there? (vv. 14-17)

Read Acts 8:26-40.

6. Peter and John return to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel all throughout Samaria. Who visits Philip and what are his instructions to him? (v. 26) Note this on the map in the Appendix.

7. Who does Philip encounter on his journey? Summarize what happens. (vv. 27-39)

8. What happens to Philip and where does he go next? (vv. 39-40) Note this on the map in the Appendix.

DAY FOUR

Apply

Read Acts 7:54-60 again.

1. How does Stephen describe Jesus in Acts 7:55-56?
2. Read the following cross-references and note what you learn about the position of Jesus.

Luke 22:69

Ephesians 1:20

Colossians 3:1

Hebrews 1:3

3. In light of these cross-references, what do you think is the significance of what Stephen saw? Read Daniel 7:13-14 to learn more about the Son of Man.

4. What were the final words of Stephen? (vv. 57-60)

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Read Acts 8:14-17.

Why do you think these new believers in Samaria did not receive the Holy Spirit at the moment of their salvation? Consider the relationship between the Jews and the Samaritans in your response. Read 2 Kings 17:24, Ezra 4:2-11, and John 4:9 to help you with your answer.

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What have you learned about God's character this week?
2. How have you seen these aspects of His character at work in your life?
3. This week we saw the boldness of Stephen to proclaim the message of salvation, even in the face of death. In the space below, confess to the Lord any fear or reservations you have about speaking the truth of the gospel to others. Ask Him to give you boldness.

NOTES

NOTES

LESSON SEVEN MEMORIZATION

“But the Lord said to him, ‘Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.’”

Acts 9:15-16

WITNESS LESSON SEVEN

ACTS NINE

THE CONVERSION OF SAUL

1 But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. 4 And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" 5 And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." 7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. 8 Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and

brought him into Damascus. 9 And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." 11 And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. 14 And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and

kings and the children of Israel.

16 For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” 17 So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; 19 and taking food, he was strengthened.

SAUL PROCLAIMS JESUS IN SYNAGOGUES

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. 20 And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” 21 And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?” 22 But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

SAUL ESCAPES FROM DAMASCUS

23 When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, 24 but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, 25 but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

SAUL IN JERUSALEM

26 And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus. 28 So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. 29 And he spoke and disputed against the Hellenists. But they were seeking to kill him. 30 And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

31 So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up.

And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

THE HEALING OF AENEAS

32 Now as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda. 33 There he found a man named Aeneas, bedridden for eight years, who was paralyzed. 34 And Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed.” And immediately he rose. 35 And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

DORCAS RESTORED TO LIFE

36 Now there was in Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, which, translated, means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. 37 In those days she became ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. 38 Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him, urging him, “Please come to us without delay.” 39 So Peter rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas

made while she was with them. 40 But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. 41 And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then, calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. 42 And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. 43 And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a tanner.



LESSON SEVEN ACTS NINE

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 9, mark
references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then,
when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities,
regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 9, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapter.
2. Add to your lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from this chapter. You can record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 9:15-16.



BUT THE LORD SAID TO HIM, "GO,
FOR HE IS A CHOSEN INSTRUMENT
OF MINE TO CARRY MY NAME
BEFORE THE GENTILES AND KINGS
AND THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL. 16
FOR I WILL SHOW HIM HOW MUCH
HE MUST SUFFER FOR THE SAKE
OF MY NAME."

ACTS 9:15-16

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 9:1-31. Be sure to locate places mentioned on the map in the Appendix.

1. Where was Saul going and why? (v. 1-2)
2. Who did Saul encounter on the road to Damascus? (vv. 5, 17)
3. What was Saul told to do? (v. 6)
4. Who was sent to Saul and why was he afraid to go? (vv. 10-14)

5. Why was Saul chosen by the Lord? (vv. 15-16)

6. What was the response of the Jews when they heard Saul proclaim that Jesus was the Son of God?
(vv. 21-23)

7. Describe Saul's encounter with the disciples in Jerusalem and who it was that helped him.
(vv. 26-30)

8. What was the church's response to Saul's conversion? (v. 31)

Read Acts 9:32-43.

9. In these final verses of Acts 9, Peter performs two miracles. Fill in the table with the details about each miracle.

Healing of Aeneas	Raising of Dorcas from the Dead
Location (v. 32)	Location (v. 36)
What happened (vv. 33-34)	What happened (vv. 37-42)
Result in the area (v. 35)	Result in the area (v. 43)

DAY THREE & FOUR

Apply

Read Galatians 1:11-24.

1. List out the events of Paul's life before his encounter with Christ and immediately following his salvation.

Read Acts 8:1-4.

2. Who was Saul persecuting?

3. Read the following cross-references and record what you learn about God's actions towards those who belong to Him.

Psalm 46:1

Psalm 105:8-15

2 Thessalonians 1:3-10

4. In Acts 9:15-16, God describes Saul's ministry. How was his ministry different from the ministry of Peter and the other disciples? Read Galatians 2:7-8 to help you with your answer.

5. Read the following cross-references and record what you learn about Saul's relationship with the Jewish believers before he was saved.

Acts 7:58-8:1

Acts 22:3-5

6. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. This was written by Saul about 30 years after his salvation. How do you see this immediate transformation from death to life in Saul's life so far in our study of Acts?

7. Compare to where the church had expanded (Acts 9:31) with Acts 1:8.

8. Note where Peter is and who he is with at the end of Acts 9.

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What has God taught or reminded you about Himself this week?
2. How have you seen these truths about Himself at work in your life?
3. The hand of God was evident in Saul's life, as you saw this week. How have you seen God's hand in your life recently?

4. Reflect on your transformation from death to life when you encountered Jesus and were saved. Write out ways you have seen your life transformed by Christ. Then, spend some time thanking Him for His great work in your life.

NOTES

NOTES

LESSON EIGHT MEMORIZATION

“And the voice came to him again a second time, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’”

Acts 10:15

WITNESS LESSON EIGHT

ACTS TEN

PETER AND CORNELIUS

1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort, 2 a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God. 3 About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, “Cornelius.” 4 And he stared at him in terror and said, “What is it, Lord?” And he said to him, “Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. 5 And now send men to Joppa and bring one Simon who is called Peter. 6 He is lodging with one Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea.” 7 When the angel who spoke to him had departed, he called two of his servants and a devout soldier from among those who attended him, 8 and having related everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

PETER’S VISION

9 The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. 10 And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance 11 and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. 12 In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. 13 And there came a voice to him: “Rise, Peter; kill and eat.” 14 But Peter said, “By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.” 15 And the voice came to him again a second time, “What God has made clean, do not call common.” 16 This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven.

17 Now while Peter was inwardly

perplexed as to what the vision that he had seen might mean, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house, stood at the gate 18 and called out to ask whether Simon who was called Peter was lodging there. 19 And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. 20 Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them." 21 And Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for. What is the reason for your coming?" 22 And they said, "Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." 23 So he invited them in to be his guests.

The next day he rose and went away with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him. 24 And on the following day they entered Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. 25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. 26 But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand

up; I too am a man." 27 And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered. 28 And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean. 29 So when I was sent for, I came without objection. I ask then why you sent for me."

30 And Cornelius said, "Four days ago, about this hour, I was praying in my house at the ninth hour,[d] and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing 31 and said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. 32 Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon who is called Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.' 33 So I sent for you at once, and you have been kind enough to come. Now therefore we are all here in the presence of God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord."

GENTILES HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

34 So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, 35 but in

every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36 As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), 37 you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39 And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, 40 but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, 41 not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. 43 To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

THE HOLY SPIRIT FALLS ON THE GENTILES

44 While Peter was still saying

these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. 45 And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. 46 For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, 47 “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

ACTS ELEVEN (1-18)

PETER AND CORNELIUS

1 Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. 2 So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, 3 “You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” 4 But Peter began and explained it to them in order: 5 “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. 6 Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. 7 And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ 8 But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ 9 But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ 10 This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. 11 And behold, at that

very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. 12 And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. 13 And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; 14 he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ 15 As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. 16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ 17 If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” 18 When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”





LESSON EIGHT ACTS TEN & ELEVEN

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 10:1-11:18, mark references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then, when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities, regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 10:1-11:18, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapters.
2. Add to your lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from these chapters. You can record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 10:15.



AND THE VOICE CAME TO HIM
AGAIN A SECOND TIME, "WHAT
GOD HAS MADE CLEAN, DO NOT
CALL COMMON."
ACTS 10:15

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 10:1-23 again.

1. Who was Cornelius of Caesarea and how is he described? (vv. 1-2)
2. Describe Cornelius' vision. (vv. 3-4)
3. What did the angel tell Cornelius to do? (vv. 5-6)
4. What did Cornelius do after the angel left him? (vv. 7-8)
5. Describe what Peter saw while in a trance. (vv. 11-12)
6. What did the voice tell him to do? (v. 13)

7. When God told Peter to rise, kill and eat, what was his response? (v. 14)

8. What did the voice say to Peter a second time? (v. 15)

9. When Peter obeyed the Spirit and told the men sent from Cornelius he was the man they were looking for, what did the men tell him? (v. 22)

10. When Peter left, who did he take with him? (v. 23)

DAY THREE

Observe

Read Acts 10:24-48.

1. When Cornelius bowed to worship Peter, what was Peter's response? (vv. 25-26)
2. When Peter asks Cornelius why he sent for him, what was Cornelius's response? (vv. 29-33)
3. Summarize what Peter does next. (vv. 34-35)
4. Peter reminded Cornelius that the good news of Jesus had already been given. To whom was this news given first? (v. 36)
5. Where did Peter tell Cornelius the preaching of the gospel began? (v. 37)

6. According to Peter, what did Jesus do after God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit? (v. 38)

7. What did Peter tell Cornelius that God had commanded the apostles to do? (v. 42)

8. What happened while Peter was talking to all in the house of Cornelius? (v. 44)

9. How did the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on the Gentiles affect the Jewish believers? (v. 45)

10. When the Jewish believers at the house of Cornelius heard the Gentiles speak with tongues, what did Peter say? (v. 47)

11. What did Peter command the Gentiles in the house of Cornelius to do? (v. 48)

Read Acts 11:1-18.

12. What did the apostles do after they heard about the Gentiles receiving the word of God? (vv. 1-3)

13. What did Peter tell the brothers in Jerusalem that the Spirit told him to do about the house of Cornelius? (v. 12)

14. When Peter was relating to the brothers at Jerusalem how the Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles, what did he say? (v. 16)

15. What conclusion did Peter come to and then share with the brothers at Jerusalem? (v. 17)

16. How did the brothers at Jerusalem respond to Peter's explanation of why he understood God's forgiveness to the Gentiles? (v. 18)

DAY FOUR

Interpret

Read Deuteronomy 4:1-10 and Deuteronomy 14:1-21

1. Look up the word translated “Gentile” in Acts 10:45 in the original Greek, and record the definition below.
2. According to Deuteronomy 4, what was Israel’s responsibility to the “ethnos” in their land and the nations around them?
3. According to Deuteronomy 14:1-20, why was Peter’s vision in Acts 10:9-15 so perplexing to him?
4. In Acts 10:28, Peter told Cornelius that it is “athamitos” (illicit, prohibited) to associate with a foreigner. Why was this the case?

5. Peter's vision was of unclean food. Why did Peter say, "God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean" (Acts 10:28). Look at what Jesus says in Mark 7:14-20 to help with your answer.

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What has God taught or reminded you about Himself this week?
2. How have you seen these truths about Him at work in your life?
3. Is there anybody in your life with whom you would be hesitant to share the gospel? Why?

NOTES

NOTES

LESSON NINE MEMORIZATION

“For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.”

Acts 11:24

WITNESS LESSON NINE

ACTS ELEVEN

(19-30)

THE CHURCH IN ANTIOCH

19 Now those who were scattered because of the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who on coming to Antioch spoke to the Hellenists also, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23 When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, 24 for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. 25 So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, 26 and when he

had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.

27 Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). 29 So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. 30 And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

ACTS TWELVE

JAMES KILLED AND PETER IMPRISONED

1 About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. 2 He killed James the brother of John with the sword, 3 and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. 4 And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. 5 So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

PETER IS RESCUED

6 Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. 7 And

behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his hands. 8 And the angel said to him, “Dress yourself and put on your sandals.” And he did so. And he said to him, “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.” 9 And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. 10 When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. 11 When Peter came to himself, he said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”

12 When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. 13 And when he knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. 14 Recognizing Peter's voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and reported that Peter was standing at the gate. 15 They said to her, "You are out of your mind." But she kept insisting that it was so, and they kept saying, "It is his angel!" 16 But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed. 17 But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, "Tell these things to James and to the brothers." Then he departed and went to another place.

18 Now when day came, there was no little disturbance among the soldiers over what had become of Peter. 19 And after Herod searched for him and did not find him, he examined the sentries and ordered that they should be put to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and spent time there.

DEATH OF HEROD

20 Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon, and they came to him with one accord, and having persuaded Blastus, the king's chamberlain, they asked for peace, because their country depended on the king's country for food. 21 On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them. 22 And the people were shouting, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!" 23 Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.

24 But the word of God increased and multiplied.

25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark.



LESSON NINE ACTS ELEVEN & TWELVE

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 11:19-12:25, mark references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then, when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities, regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 11:19-12:25, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapters.
2. Add to your lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from these chapters. You can record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 11:24.



FOR HE WAS A GOOD MAN, FULL
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND OF FAITH.
AND A GREAT MANY PEOPLE WERE
ADDED TO THE LORD.
ACTS 11:24

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 11 again.

1. After the scattering of the disciples, to whom did they preach? (v. 19)
2. To whom did the believers from Cyprus and Cyrene preach? (vv. 20-21)
3. Who did the church at Jerusalem send to Antioch? (v. 22)
4. Describe Barnabas' response to the faith he found at Antioch. (v. 23)
5. Why did Barnabas go to Tarsus? (v. 25)

6. How long did Barnabas and Saul stay at Antioch? (v. 26)

7. Where were the disciples first called Christians? (v. 26)

8. Besides Barnabas, who did the Jerusalem church send to Antioch? (vv. 27-28)

9. What did Agabus prophesy? (v. 28)

10. What did the brothers at Antioch do for the brothers in Judea? (vv. 29-30)

DAY THREE

Observe

Read Acts 12 again.

1. What did Herod do to James? (vv. 1-2)
2. What did Herod do to Peter during the Passover celebration? (vv. 3-4)
3. While Peter was in prison, what was the church doing? (v. 5)
4. When the angel appeared to Peter, what happened? (v. 7)
5. What did the angel tell Peter to do? (v. 8)
6. What happened when Peter and the angel came to the Iron Gate leading to the city? (v. 10)

7. Who did Peter ask the people to tell about his release from prison? (v. 17)
8. What did King Herod do with the keepers of the jail when he couldn't find Peter? (v. 19)
9. When Peter was released from prison where did he go? (v. 19)
10. What did the people say about Herod? (v. 22)
11. Why did the angel of the Lord strike Herod down? (v. 23)
12. As the word of God grew and multiplied, who returned from Jerusalem? (vv. 24-25)

DAY FOUR

Today is a day of remembrance and celebration. The gospel has been carried and preserved through history and has made its way to you.

1. You, like so many others, heard the gospel and believed. Thank the Lord for the person/people from whom you first heard the gospel. Share with your group.

2. Spend some time thanking the Lord for making the gospel known to you. Write five examples of the way your life has been changed in the space below.

3. Spend some time praying for three people in your sphere who need to hear and believe the good news of the gospel. Invite your group to pray with you.

4. The Bible is illegal in 52 countries around the world. Below is a list of the top 12 most difficult countries to share the gospel. Spend some time praying that God would do what He did in the book of Acts: cause the gospel to explode out.

Afghanistan

Iran

Kazakhstan

Kyrgyzstan

Maldives

Mauritania

North Korea

Saudi Arabia

Somalia

Tajikistan

Turkmenistan

Uzbekistan

Yemen

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What have you learned or been reminded about God's character this week?
2. How have you seen these aspects of His character at work in your life?
3. Have you ever had to defend the faith of a brother or sister?
4. Are there areas of your life where you fail to give God the glory that is due Him?



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LESSON TEN MEMORIZATION

“And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.”

Acts 13:48

WITNESS LESSON TEN

ACTS THIRTEEN

BARNABAS AND SAUL SENT OFF

1 Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

BARNABAS AND SAUL ON CYPRUS

4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. 5 When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. 6 When they had gone through the whole island as

far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. 7 He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? 11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the proconsul believed, when he

saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

PAUL AND BARNABAS AT ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA

13 Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem, 14 but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. 15 After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it.” 16 So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said:

“Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. 17 The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. 18 And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. 19 And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. 20 All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. 21 Then

they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. 22 And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, ‘I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.’ 23 Of this man’s offspring God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised. 24 Before his coming, John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. 25 And as John was finishing his course, he said, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but behold, after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.’

26 “Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. 27 For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets, which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning him. 28 And though they found in him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have him executed. 29 And when they had carried out all that was written of him,

they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. 30 But God raised him from the dead, 31 and for many days he appeared to those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. 32 And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, 33 this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm,

“‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you.’

34 And as for the fact that he raised him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way,

“‘I will give you the holy and sure blessings of David.’

35 Therefore he says also in another psalm,

“‘You will not let your Holy One see corruption.’

36 For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep and was laid with his fathers and saw corruption, 37 but he whom God raised up did not see corruption.

38 Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, 39 and by him everyone who believes is freed[c] from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses. 40 Beware, therefore, lest what is said in the Prophets should come about:

41 “‘Look, you scoffers, be astounded and perish; for I am doing a work in your days, a work that you will not believe, even if one tells it to you.’”

42 As they went out, the people begged that these things might be told them the next Sabbath. 43 And after the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

44 The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. 45 But when the Jews[d] saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. 46 And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that

the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. 47 For so the Lord has commanded us, saying,

“I have made you a light for the Gentiles,
that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. 49 And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. 50 But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. 51 But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. 52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

ACTS FOURTEEN

PAUL AND BARNABAS AT ICONIUM

1 Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. 2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. 3 So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. 4 But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles. 5 When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, 6 they learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, 7 and there they continued to preach the gospel.

PAUL AND BARNABAS AT LYSTRA

8 Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was crippled from birth and had never walked. 9 He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well, 10 said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet.” And he sprang up and began walking. 11 And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, “The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!” 12 Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13 And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. 14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying

out, 15 “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. 16 In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. 17 Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.” 18 Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.

PAUL STONED AT LYSTRA

19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having persuaded the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. 20 But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe. 21 When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

23 And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

PAUL AND BARNABAS RETURN TO ANTIOCH IN SYRIA

24 Then they passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. 25 And when they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia, 26 and from there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had fulfilled. 27 And when they arrived and gathered the church together, they declared all that God had done with them, and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles. 28 And they remained no little time with the disciples.

LESSON TEN ACTS THIRTEEN & FOURTEEN

FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING

As you read Acts 13 & 14, mark references to the following:

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

Pray(er)

Power

Baptize

Witness(es)

Time words and phrases (ex: then, when, until, the next day, etc.)

Geographic locations (ex: cities, regions, etc.)

DAY ONE

Observe

Read all of Acts 13 & 14, asking who, what, when, where, why, and how.

1. Using one or two sentences, summarize the main theme of the chapter.
2. Add to your lists of observations about the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit from this chapter. You can record your findings on the designated pages in the Appendix.

As you are able, memorize Acts 13:48.



AND WHEN THE GENTILES HEARD
THIS, THEY BEGAN REJOICING AND
GLORIFYING THE WORD OF THE
LORD, AND AS MANY AS WERE
APPOINTED TO ETERNAL LIFE
BELIEVED.
ACTS 13:48

DAY TWO

Observe

Read Acts 13:1-4.

1. Who does Luke mention as being part of the church at Antioch? (v. 1)
2. What were these people doing when the Holy Spirit spoke to them? (v. 2)
3. For what were Barnabas and Saul to be set apart? (v. 2)
4. How did they respond to the Spirit's call? (v. 3)

5. In verse 1, Luke names specific Antioch church leaders as present for Saul and Barnabas’ commission. Use the tools for interpretation in the second column below to learn more about the backgrounds of the church leaders mentioned. In the third column, record any additional insight that you glean.

Church Leader	Tools for Interpretation	Additional Insights
Barnabas	Look up Acts 11:22-26	
Simeon	Look up the Greek word translated as “Niger”	
Lucius of Cyrene	Identify Cyrene on the map of “Paul’s First Missionary Journey” (see Appendix)	
Manaen, lifelong friend of Herod the Tetrarch	Look up Matthew 14:1-12	
Saul	Look up Romans 1:1, Galatians 1:1, and Galatians 1:15	

6. While the church leadership at Antioch commissioned Saul and Barnabas on this missionary journey, who was ultimately responsible for it? (Acts 13:4)

DAY THREE

Observe

Read Acts 13:4-12, underlining each reference to geographical locations. Look at the map of “Paul’s First Missionary Journey” in the appendix and trace Saul’s journey as documented in these verses. Then answer the questions below.

1. Who was at Salamis to assist Saul and Barnabas in their ministry? (v. 5)
2. When they came to Paphos, Saul and Barnabas came across two magicians. Use the space below to record who they were and how they are described. (vv. 6-8)
3. What new name is introduced for Saul in verse 9?
4. Of what did Paul accuse the second magician? (vv. 9-12)
5. What happened to the magician when the hand of the Lord came upon him? (v. 11)

6. Why did the proconsul believe? (v. 12)

Read Acts 13:13-41, underlining each reference to a geographical location. Look at the map in the appendix and trace Paul's journey as documented in these verses. Then answer the questions below.

7. What did the leaders of Antioch's synagogue ask of Paul and Barnabas? (v. 15)

8. What message had been sent to the children of Abraham? (v. 26)

9. In the space below, write down anything else that stands out to you in Paul's message at the Antioch synagogue.

Read Acts 13:42-52.

10. How did the people receive Paul's message in the synagogue that day? (vv. 42-43)

11. The next Sabbath, how many people showed up to hear the word of God? (v. 44)

12. How did the religious leaders respond to this? (vv. 45-46)

13. Because of this, to whom would Paul and Barnabas now take the gospel? (vv. 46-47)

14. Describe the diverse receptivity to the gospel in that region. (vv. 48-52)

DAY FOUR

Read Acts 14:1-7, underlining each reference to a geographical location. Look at the map in the Appendix and trace Paul's journey as documented in these verses.

1. In the space below, briefly describe the response that the gospel message received at Iconium.

Read Acts 14:8-23, underlining each reference to a geographical location. Look at the map in the Appendix and trace Paul's journey as documented in these verses. Then answer the questions below.

2. In the space below, briefly describe the response to the events that took place at Lystra.

3. In verse 21, Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch. What did they do as they returned to each city? (vv. 21-23)

Read Acts 14:24-28, underlining each reference to a geographical location. Look at the map in the Appendix and trace Paul's journey as documented in these verses. Then answer the questions below.

4. Where did Paul and Barnabas return? (v. 26)

5. With whom did they share what God had accomplished on their missionary journey? (vv. 27-28)

Read 2 Timothy 3:10-15, part of Paul's letter to his beloved disciple, Timothy.

6. Who had delivered Paul from his sufferings at Antioch, Lystra, and Iconium? (v. 11)

7. According to Paul, who will experience persecution? (v. 12)

8. How is Timothy to live in light of such opposition? (vv. 14-15)

9. How does this instruction apply to you personally?

DAY FIVE

Apply

1. What have you learned or been reminded about God's character this week?
2. How have you seen these aspects of His character at work in your life?
3. Think about the people that God has placed in your sphere of influence (your home, workplace, classroom, neighborhood, etc.). To whom is the Spirit sending you to share the message of salvation?



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LESSON ELEVEN

One of the goals of Highland Inductive Studies is to equip you with tools and skills to study the Bible for yourself, without the help of a workbook. Therefore, this final week will look different from the previous ten weeks, as you use the inductive method to study Acts 15 on our own. Be confident in the skills of observation, interpretation and application that you have developed.

WITNESS LESSON ELEVEN

DAY ONE & TWO

Observe

The first step of inductive Bible study is Observation, which answers the question, “what does the text say?” On Days One and Two, you will use the tools that you have learned to observe the primary passage for this week.

Read Acts 15:1-21, asking who, what, when, where, why and how as you read.

1. In the space below, record any observations that you made from interrogating the text. At this point you are merely writing down your observations, not what you think the text means.

2. Pick three key words or phrases to mark in Acts 15:1-21. In the space below, make a list of observations about the key words and phrases you found in the text.

Key word or phrase: _____

List of observations:

Key word or phrase: _____

List of observations:

Key word or phrase: _____

List of observations:

What would you title this section of Acts?

Read Acts 15:22-41, asking who, what, when, where, why and how as you read.

3. In the space below, record any observations that you made from interrogating the text. At this point, you are merely writing down your observations, not what you think the text means.

4. Pick three key words or phrases to mark in Acts 15:22-41. In the space below, make a list of observations about the key words and phrases you found in the text.

Key word or phrase: _____

List of observations:

Key word or phrase: _____
List of observations:

Key word or phrase: _____
List of observations:

What would you title this section of Acts?

DAY THREE & FOUR

Interpret

The second step of inductive Bible study is Interpretation, which answers the question, “what does the text mean?” On Days Three and Four, we will use the tools that we have learned from this study to interpret the primary passage for this week.

1. Choose three key words or phrases from this text that stand out to you. Using one of the resources listed in the Appendix, conduct a word study for each of them. In the space below, record the Greek words or phrases and their meaning.

a.

b.

c.

2. How do these word studies add to your understanding of Acts 15?

3. Using your Study Bible or one of the resources listed in the Appendix, look up cross-references that can help you better understand the meaning of Acts 15. Record the references below, including any insight that they add.

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

DAY FIVE

Apply

*The third step of inductive Bible study is Application, which asks two questions:
“What does the text teach me about God?” and “How does the text apply to my life?”*

1. What have you learned about God this week?
2. What applications have you gleaned from your studies this week?
3. Come up with a third application question to share with your group.



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APPENDIX

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT GOD

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT JESUS

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

TOOLS FOR INTERPRETATION

How to conduct a word study on Blue Letter Bible:

Step One: Go to www.blueletterbible.org and enter the Scripture reference in the search bar.

Step Two: To look into a specific word, phrase, or verse, click on its verse reference (in blue) on the left-hand side of the page.

Step Three: Click on the Strong's number (in blue) that correlates with the word or phrase that you are studying.

Step Four: Look at the Strong's definition of the Greek or Hebrew word or phrase. Look at the Outline of Biblical Usage and record what you learn, as well.

Tip: If there is more than one definition to a word or phrase, choose the one that best fits within the context of the surrounding verses.

How to look up cross-references on Blue Letter Bible:

Step One: Go to blueletterbible.org and enter the Scripture reference to the passage that you are studying in the search bar.

Step Two: To look into a specific word, phrase, or verse, click on its verse reference (in blue) on the left-hand side of the page.

Step Three: Click on the tab that says, “cross-references” and read the Scriptures listed below.

THE SETTING OF ACTS

c. A.D. 30-60

The book of Acts records the spread of the gospel from Jerusalem to Rome, thus fulfilling the risen Christ's words to his apostles in Acts 1:8.



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PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

c. A.D. 49-51 (Acts 15:36-18:22)

Paul and Silas revisited the places in Asia Minor where Paul had preached on his first journey, while Barnabas took John Mark and sailed to Cyprus. Paul and Silas visited Derge, Lystra, and Antioch in Pisidia. From there Paul and Silas traveled to Troas, where Paul received a vision of a man from Macedonia calling to them. Crossing into Europe, they passed through several towns along the Egnatian Way and traveled to the cities of Athens and Corinth in southern Greece. Then, sailing to Ephesus and Caesarea, they visited the church in Jerusalem before returning to Antioch and Syria.



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PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

c. A.D. 52-57 (Acts 18:22-21:17)

Paul's third missionary journey traversed much the same ground as his second. Passing through Galatia and Phrygia, he proceeded directly to the great port city of Ephesus. After three years of preaching and teaching there, Paul traveled again through Macedonia and Achaia, strengthening the believers, and then finished with a visit to Jerusalem.



PAUL'S JOURNEY TO ROME

c. A.D. 60

Appealing his case to Caesar, Paul was ordered by Festus to be transferred to Rome. Paul's journey was marked by difficult weather, as they had begun their voyage late into the season for sea travel. A bad decision to try to find winter harbor at Phoenix ended with the ship being driven by a storm to the island of Malta, where the ship broke apart. All aboard the ship survived, however, and Paul was soon placed aboard another ship that took him to Puteoli. From there Paul was taken to Rome.



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