



SMALL GROUP STUDY

The Acts of the Holy Spirit

Acts is the sequel to Luke. Acts opens with Jesus Christ still around; it is after His resurrection and He is instructing His apostles. Luke, as a traveling companion to Paul, chronicles the life of Paul and the beginning of the church. He documents the Jewish hope in the Messiah spread even to the center of the Roman empire.

Witness in Jerusalem (Chapters 1-7)

The Holy spirit comes upon the people, the Apostles are preaching, and persecution is rising.

Discussion Questions:

- a. Why is the book of Acts an unfinished book?
- b. What is the difference between finished work of Christ and unfinished work of Christ?
- c. What instructions does Jesus give to his apostles after His resurrection?
- d. Why was there such a difference in the apostles after Jesus' resurrection? They were timid/scared after the arrest of Jesus now they are bold/articulate?

Witness in Judea & Samaria (Chapters 8-9)

Saul of Tarsus, the chief antagonist of the Christian church is saved.

Discussion Questions:

- a. Why was the salvation of Saul of Tarsus a pivotal point in the history of Christianity?
- b. How did persecution get the church motivated? How does it motivate you in your own life?
- c. What are the two questions that Saul asked Jesus on the road to Damascus?
- d. Examine your heart: Have you ever asked Jesus, "Lord, what do you want me to do with my life, my time, my talent, my resources?"

Witness to the Ends of the Earth (Chapters 10-28)

The message of salvation is given to the gentiles; persecution is very severe.

Discussion Questions:

- a. What was the significance and impact of the gospel going to Rome?
- b. Why was the first doctrinal council called? What was decided?
- c. What is the difference between law and grace?
- d. Why did the HS prevent Paul from going to certain places?
- e. Why did the second missionary team go to Macedonia?
- f. Why did Paul go to Jerusalem when everyone counseled him against it? Was he out of the will of God in going against counsel?
- g. How many trials did Paul go through?
- h. Why did Paul appeal to Caesar? Did that hinder or grow the church?
- i. In the brutal moment of Paul's execution, do you think he ever regretted his boldness in sharing the gospel?
- j. Examine your heart: Are you living your life 100% for Jesus Christ?