

Acts

The apostles had a unique foundational place in the beginnings of Christ's Church. His Church today is still a part of the ongoing work of Jesus Christ. Join us as we explore the book of Acts and see how we continue what He began through His People, His Power and His Purpose.

Acts 3:1-26 (pg.911)

God not only hears but loves to answer prayers that are "according to His will." (1 John 5:14-15). We can pray confidently when we pray obediently to this truth. You have just spent time discovering God's will for you. Now, ask God for what you need to fulfill His will in your life, your friends & family, neighbors, church & community. Don't be afraid to ask forgiveness where you have blown it, strength where you are weak, courage where you are afraid.

Prayer Requests (Aim for minimum of 10 minutes)

Pray that God reveals to you who He truly is

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This area for service and outreach opportunities

1. The MIRACLE of JESUS changes MY LIFE and gives ME ETERNAL LIFE

2. The MIRACLE of JESUS causes me to EXALT our SAVIOR and SHARE THE GOSPEL

Small Group Discussion Guide

For the week of September 23rd

Connecting (Aim for 15 minutes)

- Breaking the ice/Think Time

1. How did you first hear the Gospel?

Quick Review... Looking back at your notes from this Sunday's sermon, what caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Understanding the Truth (Aim for 30-40 minutes)

Read Acts 3:1-12

1. Share several things you observe about this story of a miracle performed by Peter in verses 1-10?
2. Now read Luke 5:18-26 and discuss how these miracles are similar. How might God be using this first miracle through Peter (in Acts 3) to affirm them as Jesus' Apostles?
3. Who received the glory and attention from these miracles?
4. Who is Peter's audience as he begins to address the crowds gathering in the temple? (vs 11-12)

Read Acts 3:13-26

5. The early portion of Acts focuses on God's calling Israel to repent and accept their Messiah/Savior Jesus Christ. What does Peter accuse the Israelite people of in verses 13-15? How is this miracle showing the Israelites that Jesus really was who He said He was? (Read Isaiah 35:5-6 to see Isaiah's description of God's coming to His people)
6. How do you see God's incredible graciousness and patience with His people in Peter's plea for them in verses 17-21?

7. What does Peter command the Jewish people to do (in vs 19) and what does he promise will come if they do (end of vs 19 & vs 20)?
8. How does Peter essentially show in verses 22-25 that all the Old Testament speaks of Jesus' coming through the Jewish people?
9. How does Peter hint in vs 26 at the fact that the Jewish people weren't the only people Jesus came for, but that He would start with them?
10. How does the present state of Christianity in the world reveal how far it has spread from the time of these verses when only Jewish people were hearing Peter's message?
11. The book of Acts is all about the early spread of the gospel from the Jewish people to the world. Pay close attention to what it took for this spread to begin & why the book of Acts is such a critical time period in church history.

Seeing Our Savior

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ezekiel 36:26; Romans 12:2; Phil. 1:6

If you trusted Jesus Christ and accepted His miracle of salvation, then you are a new creation and have eternal life. Allow the change to grow you and become more like Jesus Christ in how you respond and act, then we are promised that all things will work together for good for those who love Him and keep His commandments! Let that change allow you to share the Gospel and glorify Him.

Living the Truth (Aim for 20 minutes)

1. The Jewish people had heard these truths about Christ for many generations, yet they missed Him when He came. How have you, as a Christian, missed God even when you've heard about Him often?
2. How has the miracle of Jesus changed your life?
3. Do you use your testimony to share the Gospel and exalt our Savior? Why or why not?