

PLANTING THE "FIRST" CHURCH

Acts 1:1-14

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Three key words to grasp in studying the Scriptures:
1. Knowledge – is the reception of information into the mind (input).
 2. Understanding – is the processing of the information within the mind as to how it relates to the real world.
 3. Wisdom – focuses on utilization (output) or what I am going to do as a result of the knowledge.
- B. The first half of the letter to Theophilus – the "knowing and understanding":
(*Gospel of Luke*) (*Lk. 1:3*)
- C. The second half of the letter to Theophilus – the "wisdom of doing": (*Acts*) *Acts 1:1*
- D. The truth about Christ's role in the "doings" of a local church for changing times:
(*Jn. 14:6; Mt. 16:18*)
1. **Christ is the Founder:** (*1 Cor. 3:11*)
 2. The Founder sends the Holy Spirit to activate: (*Acts 2:33*)
 3. The Founder is the Cornerstone: (*Acts 4:11; Eph. 2:20*)
 4. The Founder establishes repentance as the foundation: (*Heb. 6:1*)
 5. The Founder builds the foundation on "petra" and not "petros":
(*1 Cor. 3:11; Mt. 16:18*)
 6. The Founder dictates the requirements for leadership: (*1 Tim. 3:1-13; Tit. 1*)
 7. The Founder defines growth: (*Acts 2:47; 5:14; 6:7*)
 8. The Founder establishes growth ingredients: (*Acts 2:42-47*)

II. ESSENTIALS THE "FIRST CHURCH" HAD TO BELIEVE AND ACT UPON:

- A. They had to believe (and act) in the risen Lord Jesus Christ: vv. 1-11
- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
- B. They had to believe (and act) in each other: vv. 12-14
- C. They had to believe (and act) in corporate prayer: v. 14

III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

- A.
- B.
- C.