



A SERIES OF
ASTONISHING
EVENTS
THE BOOK OF ACTS

Bible study for the week starting November 20, 2022

SHARE

1. When people hear the word “Christian,” what are some of the positive or negative connotations to that word they hear?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

2. Read **Acts 11:19-30**. Luke, as he compiles this narrative, notes that it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called “Christians.” Some commentators point out this was said in sarcasm or derision. Do you hear that tone?
3. What happened in verses 27-30? When you’re part of the Christian Church, what is the connection that exists across boundaries of language, culture, etc.? How do we see that play out in the world today?
4. Read **1 Peter 4:12-19**. The word “Christian” is only used 3 times in the Bible, and this is one of them. What kind of picture does this paint of the Christian life?
5. Read **Luke 21:5-28**. This is the last Sunday in the church year, which is typically when the Scripture readings address the return of Jesus and the overall end of the world. What do you hear in these verses that is “gloom and doom,” and what do you hear that is encouraging?

PRAY

6. Pray that God would bring you closer to Him and to His people, and remove obstacles that would keep you from Him.



“Christians”

Acts 11:19-30

November 20, 2022 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

If you are looking for a reason to not be a part of the Christian **CHURCH**, you will **FIND** one.

Our relationship status with the church: “It’s **COMPLICATED**.”

“In Antioch the disciples were first called **CHRISTIANS**.” -Acts 11:26

If someone were to prosecute you as a Christian, would they be able to make a **CASE**?

- Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am **CHIEF**. -Paul
- It is true; we are all **BEGGARS**. -Martin Luther
- The church is full of **HYPOCRITES**, but there’s room for **ONE MORE!**
- If you find a perfect church, don’t **JOIN** it. You’d **SPOIL** it! -Billy Graham
- One should not seek among others the **TRUTH** that can be easily gotten from the Church. For in her, as in a rich treasury, the apostles have placed all that pertains to truth, so that everyone can drink this beverage of **LIFE**. -Irenaeus
- The Christian ideal has not been tried and found **WANTING**. It has been found **DIFFICULT** and left untried. -G.K. Chesterton

If you are disillusioned when you see churches full of **SINNERS**, are you surprised when you see **SICK** people at hospitals?

How do you get over distaste for the Christian Church? Learn from **JESUS**.

If you think you’re too **GOOD**, I promise you are not. If you think you’re too **BAD**, I promise you are not.

For next week, read Acts 12:1-25