



Sermon Outline: ACT(ion)S - Learning from the Early Church

Scriptures:

Acts 1:1-3, Acts 1:16-17, John 5:19, Acts 1:20, Acts 2:1, Acts 2:5-6, Acts 2:12, Acts 2:13, Acts 2:14, Acts 2:40, Acts 2:44-47

Introduction: The Power of an Origin Story

- **Illustration:** Every superhero has an origin story, often shaped by loss (Batman, Spider-Man, Superman, etc.).
- **Parallel:** The Book of Acts serves as the origin story of the Church.
- **Historical Context:** Written around 62 AD by Luke, a physician and companion of Paul.

I. The Foundation of the Early Church

A. The Resurrection – The Ultimate Proof

- **Acts 1:1-3** – Jesus presented Himself alive by many infallible proofs.
- **Importance of evidence:** Sir William Ramsey, a skeptic-turned-believer, confirmed Luke's historical accuracy.

B. The Disciples' Obedience to Scripture

- **Acts 1:16-17** – Peter references prophecy about Judas' betrayal.
- **John 5:19** – Jesus followed the Father's example; the disciples did the same.
- **Acts 1:20** – Peter uses the Psalms to guide the decision to replace Judas.

II. The Power of Unity and the Holy Spirit

A. The Command to Wait and Pray

- **Acts 2:1** – The disciples were together in unity before Pentecost.
- **Key point:** Obedience to God's Word precedes the outpouring of the Spirit.

B. The Holy Spirit's Arrival Brings Action

- **Illustration:** A stadium in Australia caused curiosity before people realized its purpose—similar to Pentecost.
- **Acts 2:5-6** – The crowd gathered in bewilderment at the Spirit's work.

III. Five Responses to the Holy Spirit's Move

1. **Bewildered Interest** – Acts 2:5-6
2. **Utter Amazement** – Acts 2:12
3. **Mocking and Skepticism** – Acts 2:13
4. **Boldness to Proclaim** – Acts 2:14
5. **Unified Support** – Peter stands with the eleven

IV. The Impact of the Spirit-Filled Church

A. The Message of Salvation

- **Acts 2:40** – Peter calls people to repentance.

B. A Transformed Community

- **Acts 2:44-47** – The believers shared all things, worshiped together, and experienced daily growth.

Conclusion: Taking ACT(ion) Today

- **Are we living in obedience to the Word like the early church?**
- **Are we unified in mission, preparing for the Spirit's work?**
- **Are we responding with boldness or skepticism when God moves?**
- **Call to Action:** Trust the Word, walk in unity, and expect the Holy Spirit to move!