

The Church Empowered for Mission



## CALL TO WORSHIP

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

9 The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. 10 And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance 11 and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. 12 In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. 13 And there came a voice to him: "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." 14 But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean."

15 And the voice came to him again a second time, "What God has made clean, do not call common." 16 This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven. 17 Now while Peter was inwardly perplexed as to what the vision that he had seen might mean, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house, stood at the gate 18 and called out to ask whether Simon who was called Peter was lodging there. 19 And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you.

20 Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them." 21 And Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for. What is the reason for your coming?" 22 And they said, "Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and Godfearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." 23 So he invited them in to be his guests. The next day he rose and went away with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him.

24 And on the following day they entered Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. 25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. 26 But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I too am a man." 27 And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered. 28 And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean.



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## ACTS

## THE GOSPEL WILL CHALLENGE OUR COMFORT ZONE (VS.9-16)

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Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean."

"God sees us as we are, loves us as we are, and accepts us as we are.

But by His grace, He does not leave us as we are." -Tim Keller



# ACTS

## THE GOSPEL WILL CHALLENGE OUR COMFORT ZONE (VS.9-16)

15 And the voice came to him again a second time, "What God has made The cross changed things Same as Peter's Denial (Lk. 22) & Restoration (Jn. 21) clean, do not call common." 16 This happened three times, and the thing

was taken up at once to heaven.

"God sees us as we are, loves us as we are, and accepts us as we are."

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## THE SPIRIT'S LEADING IS GREATER THAN OUR UNDERSTANDING IN THE MOMENT. (VS. 17-23)

17 Now while Peter was inwardly perplexed as to what the vision that he had seen might mean.

19 And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him,

"Behold, three men are looking for you.

Go immediately.

20 Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them." 21 And Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one

you are looking for.

'Obedience often comes before understanding. We're prone to wait for clarity, but God waits for trust."





## THE GOSPEL DESTROYS EVERY DIVIDING WALL. (VS. 24-28)

#### Seeing as equal

26 But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I too am a man." 27 And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered. 28 And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me Peter's vision was never about food—it was about people. that I should not call any person common or unclean.

"Prejudice, pride, and preference are incompatible with the cross of Christ."



## MATTHEW 16:13-19

"13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of beaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in beaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." 20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ."

### PETER'S DIVINELY ORCHESTRATED JOURNEY

Matt. 16:13-19



Granted keys to spread the gospel

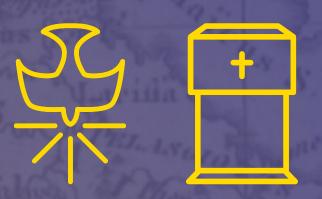
Acts 4, 6-8

Persecution ramps up.
Peter invests in Stephen.
Stephen martyred.
Gospel spreads to Samaria.

Acts 1:8

Gospel Goes Forth To:
Jerusalem
Judea
Samaria
Ends of the Earth

Acts 2



Holy Spirit comes.
Peter proclaims gospel.
Jerusalem church birthed.

Acts 10

Acts 3-5



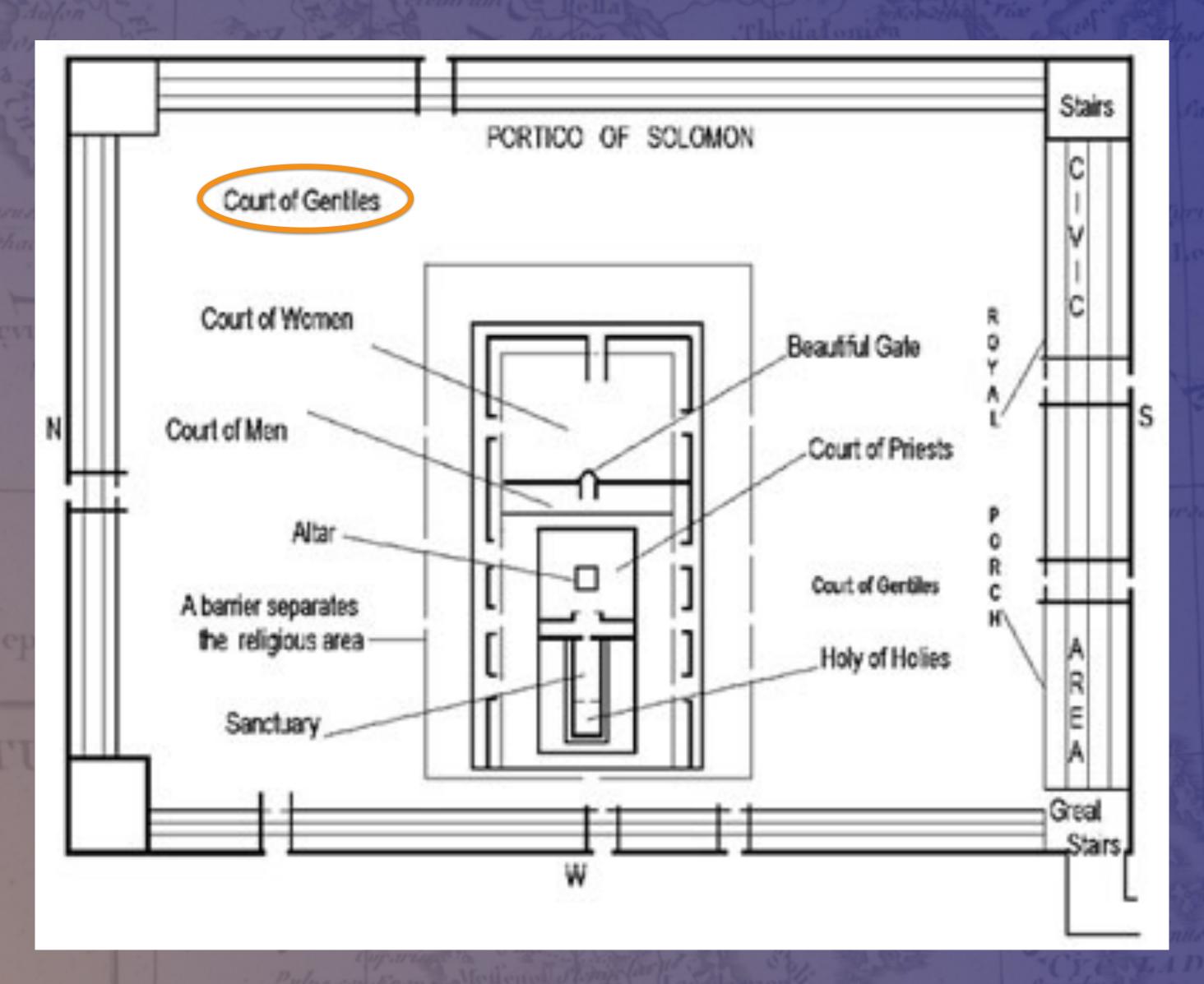
Lame man healed.
Ananias & Sapphira.
Peter proclaims gospel in
Solomon's Portico.
News & gospel spreads

to Judea.



Gospel to Gentiles?

### TEMPLE DIAGRAM



## EPHESIANS 2

"But in Christ Jesus you who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility....so making peace and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross—thereby killing the hostility.

## HOW DOES ACTS 10:28 APPLY TO US?

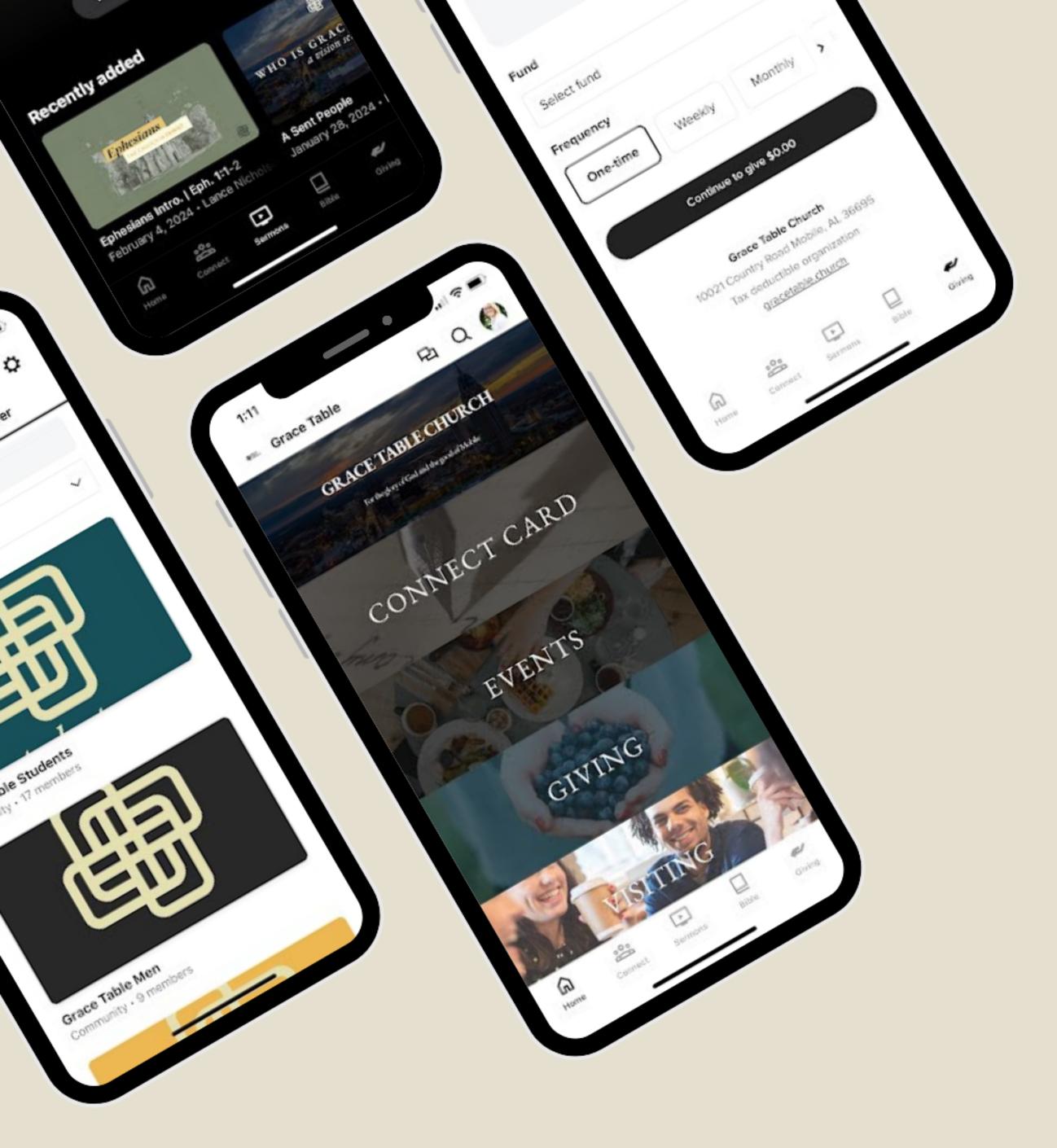
- Our Hearts: Plead with the Spirit to put to death deep-rooted/cultural prejudice
- · Our Minds: Keeping our knee-jerk depraved thoughts in check
- · Our Mouths: Don't spew unbiblical truth & ethnic slurs (Lk. 6:45)
- Our Preferences: Our stylistic preference is not "the only way". God looks at the heart.
- Our Day-to-Day Rhythms: This doesn't happen naturally. We must be intentional to pursue multiethnic unity & relationships. Reality is you'll fumble every now and then—we must extend & receive grace.

"There is neither Jew or Greek. slave nor free, male or female. For we are all <u>ONE</u> in Christ Jesus." -Gal. 3:28



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#### Download the Grace Table App



Available in your app store







# GRACE TABLE WOMEN Karaoke Night

Friday, 10.10.25 | Iron Hand Brewing | 6:30 PM



# MEN'S WYORK DAY AT NEW FACILITY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH 18 AM-12 PM



# FALL FESTINGILOWS

OCTOBER 19TH | 4-8 PM | SIGN UP ON APP

## BENEDICTION

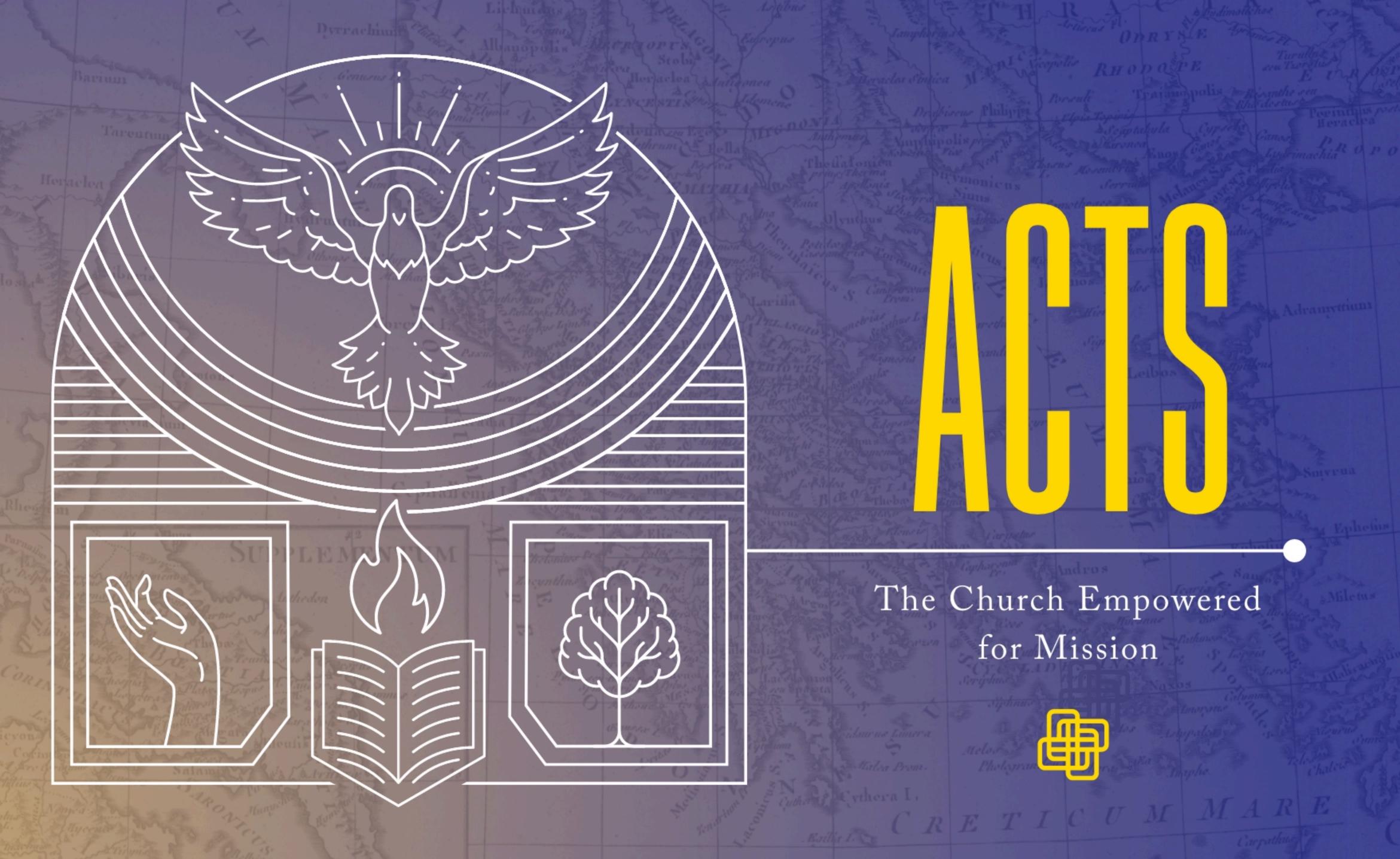
#### Leader:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

-2 Corinthians 13:14

### People:

And also with you.



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