

Momentum: Introduction

A Vision for Following Christ Together

1-2-22

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Scripture:

“So my advice is, leave these men alone. Let them go. If they are planning and doing these things merely on their own, it will soon be overthrown. But if it is from God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You may even find yourselves fighting against God!”

The others accepted his advice. They called in the apostles and had them flogged. Then they ordered them never again to speak in the name of Jesus, and they let them go.

The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus. And every day, in the Temple and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach this message: “Jesus is the Messiah.”

—Acts 5:38-42

Notes:

MOMENTUM: a property of a moving body that the body has by virtue of its mass and motion and that is equal to the product of the body's mass and velocity

Acts Context

- Authored by Dr. Luke
- Written to Theophilus with Gentile readers in mind.
- Records the Gospel beginning to move
- Jesus' miraculous ascension occurs
- Apostles are filled with the Spirit and begin public ministry
- The Spirit descends on the church — the Day of Pentecost
- Descriptions of the church's early life

Momentum in the church begins with the Gospel

Momentum in the church keeps the Gospel central

Momentum in the church builds upon the Gospel

Gospel-centered momentum CANNOT be stopped!!

“Life is like a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.”

—*Albert Einstein*

Bethel Rhythms:

UP — Our relationship with God

IN — Our relationship with God's people

OUT — Our relationship with God's mission

Will you engage?