

# The Book of Acts

## Study Guide



This booklet was created for  
First Bilingual Baptist Church.

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## The Purpose of this Booklet

This booklet was created to help you do the following:

1. Keep the big picture of Acts in mind
2. Interact more with the Bible
3. Share and encourage others with what you learn
4. Remember the things you learn
5. Experience God working in you through His word

*Continue in what you have learned... The sacred Scriptures are able to give you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

**2 Timothy 3:14-17 HCSB**

## **Overview of Acts**

The four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) tell us about Jesus' birth, ministry, death, and resurrection. But what happened next? How did the truth about Jesus Christ go from a small group of Jews in Jerusalem to include Gentiles (non-Jews) from all over the world? The book of Acts answers those questions for us.

Even though the book tells us about the “acts” of the Apostles, the best way to view the book is as a description of the mighty “acts” of the Holy Spirit. The book tells us how the Holy Spirit worked through Jesus' followers to rapidly take the message of salvation to the heart of the Roman Empire. Just like God planned, the gospel was proclaimed, and people came to saving faith in Jesus Christ. Christianity went from being perceived as a Jewish sect to a worldwide movement. In Acts, we see that the message of Jesus Christ is to be worldwide and is to include all kinds of people—no matter where they're from!

## **The Author of Acts**

There is plenty of evidence to support that the author of Acts is Luke—the same man who wrote the gospel of Luke. *First of all*, church leaders during the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries taught that Luke was the author. *Second*, Acts picks up where Luke's gospel ends, and it has a similar style, telling us that it's a sequel to the gospel. *Third*, Acts and Luke are addressed to the same person (Theophilus). *Fourth*, the style of the book seems to tell us that the writer was an educated Greek man (not a Jew). This makes sense because Luke is a Greek name, and he was a physician (see Col 4:14). *Lastly*, we know the author was a close travelling companion of Paul because he includes himself in some portions of the book (these are usually called the “we” sections, Acts 16:8-17; 20:5-15; 21: 1-18; 27:1–28:16). Luke was definitely a close friend of Paul (see 2 Tim 4:11; Phm 24).

## **The Date of Acts**

According to Luke 1:1-4, Luke was a careful historian who probably interviewed many people in preparation for what he wrote. The abrupt ending of Acts likely means that the story caught up to the time of Luke's writing—when Paul was under house arrest in Rome. This tells us that Acts was probably written between AD 60-62. This is likely why Luke doesn't mention the death of James (Jesus' half-brother, AD 62), Nero's persecution of Christians (AD 64), or the fall of Jerusalem (AD 70)

## **The Purpose of Acts**

The gospel of Luke and the book of Acts are both addressed to a man named Theophilus. We don't know much about this man, whose name means "lover of God." He is given the title "most excellent," which could mean that he was an important official. The purpose Luke gives for writing is to give an orderly account of the major events at the start of Christianity so that Theophilus could be sure about the things he had been taught.

For us today, the book of Acts can apply in the same way it applies to Theophilus. Reading the book should bring us assurance of what we believe and help us trust in God's sovereign plan for His church.

## **The Key Verse of Acts**

The main verse in the book is Acts 1:8. These are the words of Jesus to His disciples: *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

Chapter 2 is a major chapter in Acts because it tells us about the Holy Spirit coming to fulfill Christ's promise and empower the disciples for ministry. The disciples go from a small, fearful group to bold preachers who experience the power of the Holy Spirit, despite much persecution.

## The Geography of Acts

The story of Acts basically follows the same geographical areas that Jesus mentioned in Acts 1:8. The gospel starts in Jerusalem, spreads through Judea and Samaria, and makes it to Rome—the heart of the Roman Empire. The book of Acts can be divided geographically with the following outline:

- **The Gospel in Jerusalem (chs. 1–7)**
  - The Ascension of Jesus
  - The Coming of the Holy Spirit
  - The Growth of the Church
  - The Death of Stephen
- **The Gospel in Judea and Samaria (chs. 8–12)**
  - The Ministry of Philip
  - The Conversion of Saul
  - The Conversion of Gentiles
  - The Deaths of James and Herod
- **The Gospel to the Ends of the Earth (chs. 13–28)**
  - The 1<sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey
  - The Jerusalem Council
  - The 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey
  - The 3<sup>rd</sup> Missionary Journey
  - The Journey to Rome



## The Ministry of Acts

The book of Acts also tells us about the ministry of Jesus' followers. The book starts by describing Peter's ministry to the Jews and then focuses on Paul's ministry to the Gentiles. At the end of each major section, Luke gives a short summary of how the ministry is progressing. In terms of the movement of the ministry, here's how the book of Acts can be divided:

- **Peter Leads Ministry in Jerusalem (1:1–6:7)**
  - The Apostles are Empowered
  - The Apostles are Validated
- **New Leaders Expand Ministry (6:8–9:31)**
  - The Ministry of Stephen
  - The Ministry of Philip
  - The Ministry of Saul
- **Peter Begins Ministry to the Gentiles (9:32–12:24)**
  - Peter Preaches to Cornelius
  - The Christians in Antioch
  - Persecution and Salvation
- **Paul Continues Ministry to the Gentiles (12:25–16:5)**
  - The First Missionary Journey
  - The Jerusalem Council
  - The Second Missionary Journey Begins
- **Paul Expands Ministry to the Gentiles (16:6–19:20)**
  - The Second Missionary Journey Continues
  - The Third Missionary Journey
- **Paul's Ministry Takes Him to Rome (19:21–28:30)**
  - Paul Is Arrested in Jerusalem
  - Paul Defends Himself before Roman Leaders
  - Paul's Voyage to Rome
  - Paul Preaches in Rome

## **Key Themes in Acts**

As you read Acts, look for these major themes. Think about how each story illustrates or adds to the themes below. Feel free to add some passages that give evidence for each theme.

- God planned the gospel to go to both Jews and Gentiles.
- The Apostles preached the death, resurrection, and exaltation of Jesus Christ.
- The message of Jesus Christ faced rejection and opposition.
- The Holy Spirit worked to authenticate the message and bring people to salvation.
- God sovereignly preserved His messengers.
- The message called for a response of repentance and baptism.
- Believers were marked by prayer, unity, obedience, and holiness.

## Political Leadership in the Time of Acts

The highest official in the Roman Empire was the Emperor (also called Caesar). Here are the Caesars during the book of Acts, along with the time of their reign.

- Augustus 31 BC-AD 14
- Tiberius AD 14-37
- Caligula AD 37-41
- Claudius AD 41-54
- Nero AD 54-68

In the New Testament, Israel and the surrounding lands were part of the Roman Empire. That meant that each district had a ruler directly in charge of the area. Here's a list of some of the rulers during the time of Jesus and the Apostles, along with their time and title of authority.

- Herod the Great 37-4 BC *King of Judea*
- Herod Antipas 4 BC-AD 39 *Tetrarch of Galilee, Perea*
- Pontius Pilate AD 26-36 *Prefect of Judea*
- Herod Agrippa I AD 37-44 *King of Judea*
- Herod Agrippa II AD 50-92 *Ruled north of Israel*
- Antonius Felix AD 52-60 *Procurator of Judea*
- Porcius Festus AD 60-62 *Procurator of Judea*

The highest official in the Jewish religious system was the high priest. Here is a list of some high priests in the New Testament.

- Annas AD 6-15
- Caiaphas AD 18-36
- Ananias approx. AD 47-52

## Studying the Book of Acts

Reading through Acts is a bit different than reading an epistle of the New Testament. Acts is not a letter from an Apostle trying to correct a church's practice or doctrine. Like a large part of the Bible, Acts is a story. Stories are memorable and engaging, but they also have some difficulties. We need to make sure that we let the story affect us the way the author intended, instead of using the story to teach our own lesson.

In most biblical stories, the author doesn't explicitly tell us what the main point is, so we need to make sure we are very careful in our interpretation. Just because a story tells us the way things happened at one point in time (descriptive), doesn't mean that the author is trying to say that's how things should always happen (prescriptive).

As you read Acts, you're going to have to look for clues to find out what Luke is trying to say through the story. Is he saying that certain things should happen all the time? Is he giving us an example to follow? Or an example to avoid? Is he teaching us a doctrine about the church? Or is he just trying to get us to praise God for His mighty power? Questions like these are important to answer as we study the book.

To help you study Acts, here are some helpful steps to follow as you focus on a particular story.

### **1. START WITH PRAYER**

- Confess and repent of sin (James 1:21; 1 Peter 2:1-2).
- Have the right attitude toward God's word (1 Thes 2:13).
- Ask God for wisdom as you read/study (Ps 119:18).
- Ask for spiritual growth (John 17:17).

## **2. GET THE BIG PICTURE**

- Carefully read the entire story in one sitting.
- Get a good sense of the flow of the story.
- What themes do you see?
- How would you title this story?

## **3. EXAMINE THE PIECES**

- If possible, divide up the story into its major scenes.
- Give each scene a short heading or title.
- Give a brief description of the setting of each scene.
  - Time of year, or time of day
  - Significance of the location
  - Mood of the place (chaotic, calm, etc.)
- List the major characters/groups in each scene.
- Give a brief description of the characters/groups in each scene (appearance, relationships, personality, etc.).
- Think about what new information each scene adds.
- Identify whose point-of-view each scene is told from.

## **4. REVIEW THE WHOLE STORY**

- Read the entire story again in one sitting.
- How do you think the original audience would have understood the story?
  - Does the historical background make a difference?
  - Does the people's culture make a difference?
  - Does the geography make a difference?
- Look for any key words, phrases, or ideas.
  - Is anything repeated?
  - Is anything emphasized?
  - Is anything left out?
- Look for other verses in the Bible that support or clarify your ideas about the topics or events in the story.

## **5. THINK ABOUT APPLICATION**

- How do you think Luke wanted his readers to respond to this story? Look for hints that could point to the following:
  - A sin to avoid
  - A promise from God to trust
  - A command from God to obey
  - An example to follow or avoid
  - A truth to learn about God or the church
- Are there any attitudes/actions that you think Luke was trying to produce or avoid in his readers?
- How do these attitudes/actions show up in the culture?
- How do these attitude/actions show up in the church?
- How do these attitudes/actions show up in your own life?
- What can you praise God for in this story?
- What steps can you take to obey God?

## **6. ENCOURAGE OTHERS**

- Write down any thoughts or ideas that affected you.
- Tell someone else what you've learned from this story.
- Tell someone how this passage affected you and what plans you made to apply this truth.
- Pray for others who came to your mind while you studied.
- Tell others how they can pray for you.
- Pray with others about what you are learning.

## The Stories of Acts

Below is a list of the stories of Acts. This list can help you remember what has been covered already and be prepared for what you will study next.

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 1:1-11    | The Ascension of Jesus               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 1:12-26   | Matthias Replaces Judas              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 2:1-41    | The Day of Pentecost                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 2:42-47   | The Body of Believers                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 3         | A Lame Beggar Is Healed              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 4:1-22    | Peter and John before the Council    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 4:23-37   | The Believer's Prayer and Fellowship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 5:1-16    | Ananias and Sapphira                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 5:17-42   | The Apostles' Imprisonment           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 6         | Seven Men Full of the Spirit         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 7:1 - 8:3 | Stephen's Sermon and Death           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 8:4-25    | Philip in Samaria                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 8:26-40   | The Ethiopian Eunuch                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 9:1-31    | The Conversion of Saul               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 9:32-43   | Peter in Lydda and Joppa             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 10        | Peter and Cornelius                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 11:1-18   | Peter Speaks to the Church           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 11:19-30  | Christians in Antioch                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 12        | Persecution, Rescue, and Judgment    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 13:1-12   | The Missionary Journeys Begin        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 13:13-52  | Preaching at Antioch in Pisidia      |

## The Stories of Acts (cont.)

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 14          | Ministry at Iconium and Lystra |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 15:1-35     | The Jerusalem Council          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 15:36–16:5  | Separation and a New Companion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 16:6-15     | The Call to Macedonia          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 16:16-40    | The Philippian Imprisonment    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 17:1-9      | Ministry in Thessalonica       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 17:10-15    | Ministry in Berea              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 17:16-34    | Ministry in Athens             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 18:1-23     | Ministry in Corinth            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 18:24–19:10 | Ministry in Ephesus            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 19:11-20    | The Jewish Exorcists           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 19:21-41    | A Riot in Ephesus              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 20:1-16     | Ministry in Macedonia          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 20:17-38    | Paul and the Ephesian Elders   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 21:1-26     | Paul Goes to Jerusalem         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 21:27–22:29 | Paul Is Arrested in Jerusalem  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 22:30–23:11 | Paul before the Jewish Council |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 23:12-35    | Paul Is Taken to Caesarea      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 24          | Paul before Governor Felix     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 25          | Paul Appeals to Caesar         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 26          | Paul before King Agrippa       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 27          | Paul Sails to Rome             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 28:1-10     | Paul on Malta                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 28:11-31    | Paul in Rome                   |



## Major Sermons in Acts

Below is a list of passages in Acts that record a message given by one of Jesus' followers. God worked through these messages to accomplish His plan. For each passage listed, write some key information about the message—the preacher, the occasion, the audience, the message, and the response.

⇒ Acts 2:14-36

*On the day of Pentecost, Peter preached to Jewish people who were gathered in Jerusalem. He used Joel and Psalms to tell the people that Jesus is Lord and Christ. Peter called people to repentance and baptism, and 3,000 people were added to the church.*

⇒ Acts 3:12-26

⇒ Acts 4:8-12

⇒ Acts 5:29-32

## Major Sermons in Acts (cont.)

⇒ Acts 7:2-53

⇒ Acts 10:34-43

⇒ Acts 11:4-17

⇒ Acts 13:16-41

⇒ Acts 15:7-11

## Major Sermons in Acts (cont.)

⇒ Acts 15:13-21

⇒ Acts 17:22-31

⇒ Acts 20:18-35

⇒ Acts 22:1-21

⇒ Acts 23:1-6

## Major Sermons in Acts (cont.)

⇒ Acts 24:10-21

⇒ Acts 26:2-29

⇒ Acts 28:17-20

## **Paul's First Missionary Journey (Acts 13:4–14:28)**

As you read this section, it may be helpful to keep some notes about what happened in these locations. See map on page 21.

- Antioch (in Syria) – 13:1-3
- Salamis and Paphos (on the island of Cyprus) – 13:4-12
- Perga (in Pamphylia) – 13:13
- Antioch in Pisidia – 13:14-52
- Iconium – 14:1-6
- Lystra (in Lycaonia) – 14:6-20
- Derbe (in Lycaonia) – 14:20-21
- Lystra → Iconium → Antioch (in Pisidia) – 14:21-23
- Perga → Attalia → Antioch (in Syria) – 14:24-28

## **Paul's Second Missionary Journey (Acts 15:36–18:22)**

As you read this section, it may be helpful to keep some notes about what happened in these locations. See map on page 21.

- Antioch (in Syria) – 15:36-40
- Through the regions of Syria and Cilicia – 15:41
- Derbe → Lystra – 16:1-5
- Mysia → Troas – 16:6-10
- Samothrace → Neapolis → Philippi – 16:11-40
  
- Amphipolis → Apollonia → Thessalonica – 17:1-9
  
- Berea – 17:10-14
- Athens – 17:15-34
  
- Corinth – 18:1-18
  
- Cenchreae – 18:18
- Ephesus – 18:19-21
- Caesarea → Antioch (in Syria) – 18:22

## **Paul's Third Missionary Journey (Acts 18:23–21:17)**

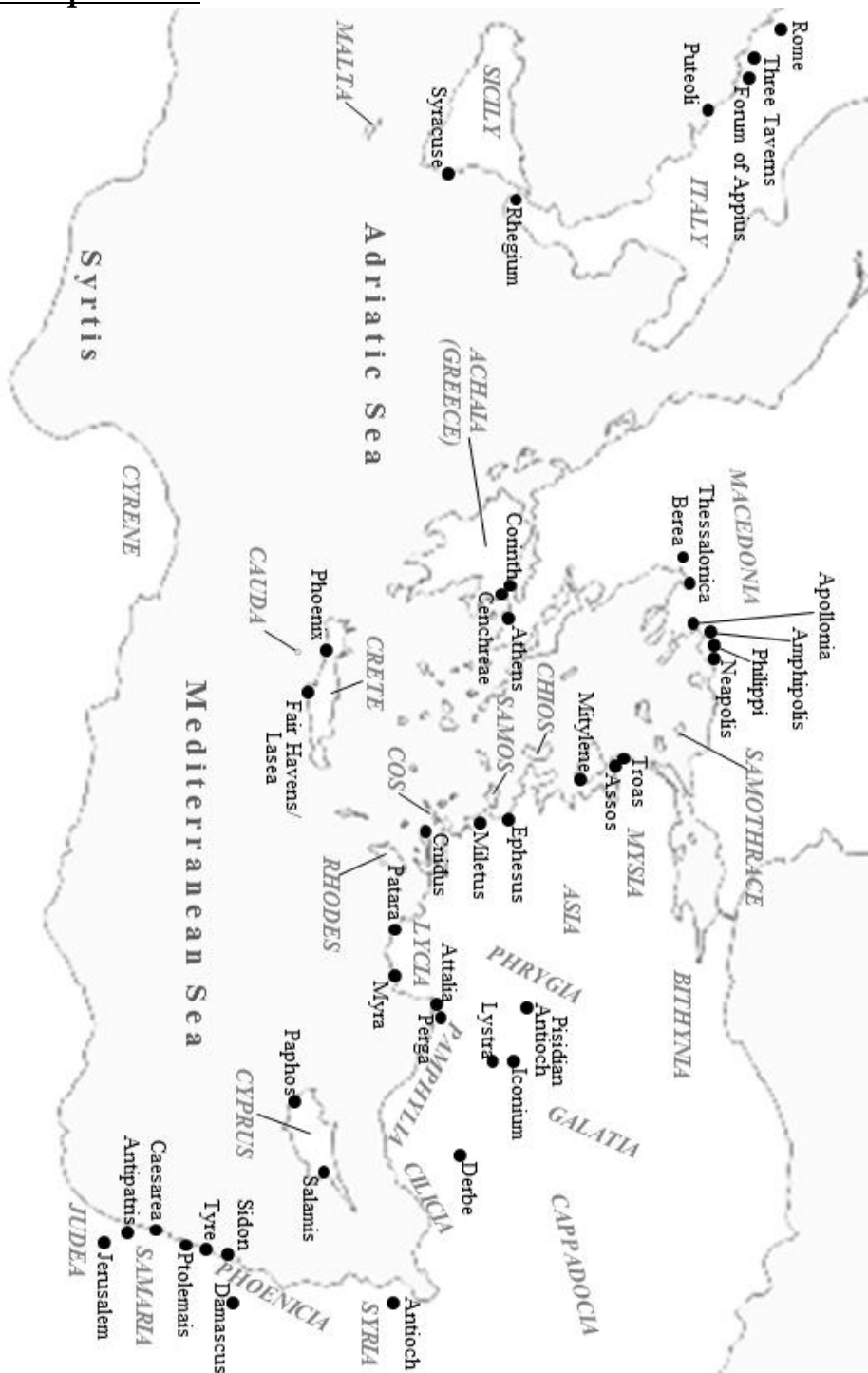
As you read this section, it may be helpful to keep some notes about what happened in these locations. See map on page 21.

- Antioch (in Syria) → Galatia and Phrygia – 18:23
- Ephesus – 19:1-41
- Macedonia (Philippi) – 20:1-2
- Greece – 20:3
- Philippi → Troas – 20:6-12
- Assos → Mitylene → Samos → Miletus – 20:13-38
- Cos → Rhodes → Patara → Tyre – 21:1-6
- Ptolemais – 21:7
- Caesarea – 21:8-14
- Jerusalem – 21:15-17





## A Map of Acts



## The Characters of Acts

Below are some lesser-known characters in Acts, along with a brief description and the chapters they are mentioned in.

**Agrippa** – Herod Agrippa II. The son of Herod (Agrippa I). He heard Paul’s testimony. *Acts 25–26.*

**Ananias and Sapphira** – They faked spirituality, lied to the Holy Spirit, and were struck dead. *Acts 5.*

**Annas** – Served as high priest from AD 6-15. After his time in office, he kept serving on the council and kept his title and influence among the leaders. *Acts 4.*

**Apollos** – A Jewish disciple of John the Baptist who heard the gospel of Jesus from Priscilla and Aquila. He was an excellent preacher who ministered in Corinth. *Acts 18–19.*

**Aquila and Priscilla** – A husband and wife. Tentmakers from Rome. They told Apollos about Jesus and became close companions of Paul. *Acts 18.*

**Barnabas** – A Levite. The “son of encouragement” who sold his land. He accepted Saul’s conversion and joined him in the 1<sup>st</sup> missionary journey. He and Paul had a sharp disagreement before the 2<sup>nd</sup> journey. *Acts 4, 9, 11–15.*

**Caiaphas** – Served as High Priest from AD 18-36. The son-in-law of Annas. He was very hostile toward Jesus Christ and the Apostles. *Acts 4.*

**Claudius** – Roman Emperor AD 41-54 after Caligula. His reign included a great famine, and he kicked the Jews out of Rome. After he died, Nero became emperor. *Acts 11, 18.*

**Claudius Lysias** – see Lysias.

**Cornelius** – A Roman centurion who feared God. He and his household accepted the gospel from Peter and were the first Gentiles to receive the Holy Spirit. *Acts 10.*

**Council (Sanhedrin)** – The Sanhedrin was the highest Jewish court. It had 70 members, was led by the high priest, and was made up of Pharisees and Sadducees, who opposed Jesus and the Apostles. *Acts 4–6, 22–25.*

**Eutychus** – A young man in Troas. He fell asleep during Paul’s late-night sermon and fell out a third-story window. Paul raised him from the dead. *Acts 20*.

**Felix** – The Roman governor of Judea from AD 52-59. He heard Paul’s defense after he was arrested in Jerusalem. *Acts 23–35*.

**Festus** – Porcius Festus was the Roman governor of Judea from AD 60-62, replacing Felix. He granted Paul’s appeal to go to Caesar. *Acts 24–26*.

**Gamaliel** – A well-respected liberal Pharisee and highly influential member of the Jewish Council. He was the teacher of Saul (Paul). *Acts 5, 22*.

**Herod** – Herod Agrippa I. A ruler in Jerusalem who killed the Apostle James and arrested Peter. He was killed by an angel for not giving glory to God. *Acts 12*.

**James (Apostle)** – Son of Zebedee. Brother of John the Apostle. Also known as James the Great. He was killed by Herod Agrippa I. *Acts 12*.

**James** – Jesus’ half-brother. The son of Mary and Joseph. He became a leader in the church of Jerusalem. He spoke at the Council of Jerusalem and greeted Paul after the third missionary journey. *Acts 15, 21*.

**John (Mark)** – see Mark (John).

**Lysias (Claudius)** – A commander of the Roman military unit that saved Paul from the mob in Jerusalem and sent him to Felix. *Acts 23–24*.

**Mark (John)** – The cousin of Barnabas. He deserted Barnabas and Paul on the 1<sup>st</sup> missionary journey. *Acts 12–13, 15*.

**Matthias** – Was with Jesus since the beginning of ministry. Chosen to take Judas Iscariot’s place as an Apostle. *Acts 1*.

**Nero** – Roman Emperor AD 54-68 after Claudius. Paul appealed and was sent to him during his trial. *Acts 25–28*.

**Pharisees** – A legalistic group of the Jews who strictly followed the ceremonial law. They opposed and were jealous of Jesus and the Apostles, although some came to saving faith. Paul used to be part of the Pharisees. *Acts 5, 15, 23, 26*.

- Philip (the evangelist)** – A different man than Philip the Apostle. He was one of the seven men chosen to help with the Greek-speaking widows. He preached in Samaria and to an Ethiopian eunuch. *Acts 6, 8, 21.*
- Sadducees** – A group of liberal Jews who denied the supernatural (including resurrection and angels). They rejected human tradition and legalism. This group tended to be wealthy, influential, and more concerned with politics than religion. *Acts 4–5, 23.*
- Silas** – A Jew and a Roman citizen. He replaced Barnabas on Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey. He was arrested with Paul in Philippi. *Acts 15–18.*
- Simon Magus** – A magician from Samaria who wanted to buy the power of the Holy Spirit. *Acts 8.*
- Simon the Tanner** – Lived in Joppa. Peter stayed with him before being called to visit Cornelius. *Acts 9–10.*
- Stephen** – One of the seven men chosen to help with the Greek-speaking widows. He is the first reported person to die for the Christian faith. *Acts 6–8, 11, 22.*
- Tertullus** – An attorney/orator who accused Paul before Felix, the Roman governor. *Acts 24.*
- Theophilus** – The books of Luke and Acts were written to him. He is likely a Roman official who is a believer in Jesus Christ. His name means “lover of God.” *Acts 1.*

## Questions and Answers

Below is a list of key questions and answers for the book of Acts. It might also be fun and helpful to learn these as a family or as a small group.

1. Who wrote the book of Acts? **Luke**
2. Who is the main character of Acts? **The Holy Spirit**
3. What does Acts tell us about? **The history of the church**
4. What do we know about Luke? **He was a Greek physician and travelling companion of Paul**
5. Whom was Acts written to? **Theophilus**
6. How does Acts start? **Jesus promises the Spirit and ascends**
7. How does Acts end? **Paul is in prison in Rome**
8. What's the general purpose of Acts? **To give certainty**
9. What is the main message of Acts? **According to God's plan, the witness of the resurrected Jesus went from Jerusalem to Rome and to both Jews and Gentiles**
10. What's the key verse of Acts? **Acts 1:8**
11. What are Jesus's words in Acts 1:8? **You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth**
12. How does Acts describe the geography of the gospel? **Chapters 1–7 are Jerusalem, chapters 8–12 are Judea and Samaria, and chapters 13–28 are the ends of the earth**
13. Who are the 2 main preachers in Acts? **Peter and Paul**
14. What chapters focus on Peter's ministry? **Acts 1–12**
15. What chapters focus on Paul's ministry? **Acts 13–28**
16. Whom did Peter mainly preach to? **The Jews**

17. Whom did Paul mainly preach to? **The Gentiles**
18. What is the key chapter in Acts? **Chapter 2**
19. What happens in Acts 2? **The Holy Spirit comes on the Day of Pentecost in Jerusalem**
20. Whom is the gospel supposed to be preached to? **Everyone—Jews and Gentiles alike**
21. How many people were in the upper room? **About 120**
22. What happened when the disciples received the Holy Spirit? **They started speaking in other languages**
23. Who was the main preacher in Jerusalem? **Peter**
24. What is the basis of the Apostles' sermons? **The Old Testament prophecies and the resurrection of Christ**
25. How many people were converted at Pentecost? **About 3,000**
26. What did the believers devote themselves to? **To the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to breaking bread, and to prayer**
27. Who lied about giving to the church? **Ananias and Sapphira**
28. What happened to Ananias and Sapphira? **God killed them**
29. What happened when the Apostles were arrested in Jerusalem? **An angel came at night and let them go**
30. Why didn't the Apostles directly help the widows? **They dedicated themselves to prayer and the ministry of the word**
31. Who is the first recorded Christian martyr? **Stephen**
32. What did Stephen preach about before his death? **The history and stubbornness of Israel**
33. Who was present when Stephen was killed? **Saul**
34. Who took the gospel to Samaria? **Philip**
35. Whom did Philip preach the gospel to on a desert road? **An Ethiopian eunuch**

36. Where was Saul converted? **On the road to Damascus**
37. What happened to Saul when he met Jesus? **He was blind for 3 days**
38. Who helped Saul after he met Jesus? **Ananias**
39. What was Saul chosen for? **To carry Jesus' name to the Jews and Gentiles, and to suffer for His name**
40. What did Peter see in his vision? **A large sheet coming down from heaven filled with all kinds of animals**
41. What did the voice tell Peter to do in the vision? **Kill and eat**
42. Who was the first Gentile to receive the Holy Spirit? **Cornelius—a God-fearing centurion**
43. Where were the believers first called “Christians”? **In Antioch**
44. Who was the first Apostle to be killed? **James, the brother of John**
45. What happened when Peter was arrested in Jerusalem? **An angel woke him up and led him out**
46. How did Herod Agrippa I die? **An angel killed him for not giving God glory**
47. Besides Peter, who else became a leader of the church in Jerusalem? **James, the brother of Jesus**
48. How many missionary journey does Acts record? **Three**
49. What was Saul’s “home church” for his missionary journeys? **Antioch**
50. Where do we read about Saul’s first missionary journey? **Acts 13–14**
51. Who went with Saul on the first missionary journey? **Barnabas and Mark**
52. What happened to Mark on the first missionary journey? **He left Paul and Barnabas and went back home**

53. Where did Paul usually preach first? **In the synagogue**
54. What happened in Acts 15? **The Jerusalem Council**
55. What was the main topic at the Jerusalem Council? **Whether Greeks needed to keep the Old Testament Law**
56. Who spoke at the Jerusalem Council? **Peter and James**
57. What was decided at the Jerusalem Council? **Gentiles are not required to keep the Old Testament Law**
58. Where do we read about Paul's second missionary journey? **Acts 15–18**
59. What did Paul and Barnabas disagree about before the second missionary journey? **Whether Mark should join them**
60. Who went with Paul on his second missionary journey? **Silas**
61. Who did Paul and Silas meet in Lystra? **Timothy**
62. Who was the first convert in Philippi? **Lydia**
63. What happened to Paul and Silas when they were arrested in Philippi? **An earthquake freed them, and the jailer was converted**
64. What do we know about the believers in Berea? **They were noble and examined what they heard with the Scriptures**
65. What did Paul see in Athens? **A city full of idols**
66. Where did Paul preach in Athens? **At Mars Hill (the Areopagus)**
67. Who did Paul meet in Corinth? **Priscilla and Aquila**
68. Who was the eloquent preacher in Ephesus and Corinth? **Apollos**
69. Who told Apollos about Jesus? **Priscilla and Aquila**
70. Where do we read about Paul's third missionary journey? **Acts 19–21**



71. What happened to Eutychus? **He fell asleep during Paul's sermon, fell out the window, and was raised from the dead**
72. Whom did Paul talk to at Miletus? **To the Ephesian elders**
73. What warning did Paul give the Ephesian elders? **Savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock**
74. Who rescued Paul from the mob in Jerusalem? **A commander (tribune) of Roman soldiers**
75. From Jerusalem, whom was Paul taken to go see in Caesarea? **Felix the governor**
76. Who became governor after Felix? **Festus**
77. Whom did Festus present Paul's case to? **King Agrippa**
78. To whom did Paul appeal to go visit? **Caesar**
79. Who was the Caesar during Paul's imprisonment? **Nero**
80. What was Paul's main method of travel to Rome? **He went on a ship**
81. What happened on Paul's voyage to Rome? **There was a storm and the ship was destroyed**
82. What happened to Paul on the island of Malta? **He was bitten by a poisonous snake, but wasn't hurt**
83. What was Paul's Roman imprisonment like? **He was under house arrest and continued preaching**

## Notes

## Notes

## Resources

- *Backgrounds of Early Christianity* by Everett Ferguson
- *The Cradle, the Cross, and the Crown: An Introduction to the New Testament* by Andreas J. Köstenberger, L. Scott Kellum, and Charles L. Quarles
- *Encountering the New Testament: A Historical and Theological Survey* by Walter A. Elwell and Robert W. Yargrough
- *Exemplary Life: A Theology of Church Life in Acts* by Andy Chambers
- *The ESV Study Bible* published by Crossway
- *Let's Study Acts* by Dennis E. Johnson
- *The MacArthur Study Bible* published by Thomas Nelson
- *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Acts* by John MacArthur
- *The Message of Acts: The Spirit, the Church, & the World* by John R. W. Stott
- *Talk Thru the Bible: A Quick Guide to Help You Get More out of the Bible* by Bruce Wilkinson and Kenneth Boa