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The Book of Acts Reading Plan

Reading the book of Acts is exciting, energizing and inspiring. We see the ways the early church shared the gospel and, through the power of the Holy Spirit, how Christianity grew at a miraculous rate. The stories and speeches in this book can inspire us to be engaged by the gospel and the Holy Spirit in the same way today.

When you read the book of Acts, you're reading the second of a two volume set. The author, Luke, first wrote about Jesus in his Gospel of Luke. This second volume, The Acts of the Apostles, tells the story of what the apostles continued to do to advance the gospel and how the power of the Holy Spirit ignited the early church.

You will find the book of Acts to be a bridge between the gospels and the apostolic letters, as well as a bridge between the early church and all generations of the church after it. In this way, it is an incredibly important book for us to read and understand.

You can choose how to get the most out of this reading plan based on your own

preferences and what interests you. Wherever you start, allow yourself to feel the awe and wonder that is a big part of this time in church history.

This reading plan will help you see three main themes in the book of Acts: 1) The unstoppable progress of the gospel, 2) Intelligent defense of the faith, and 3) The potential of the church when empowered by the Holy Spirit.

However, it would be best to understand the purpose of the book as directed by Jesus in verse 1:8 "...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Jesus is calling us to be His witnesses.

When we witness something important it can change us, leaving an indelible mark on our memory. What if we approached the book of Acts the same way? What if we behaved as if we had witnessed firsthand the events recorded in this

book? Our lives would be changed, as would the lives of those around us.

Here are some questions to ask yourself as you read through the book of Acts, and specifically the passages indicated in the reading plan:

How does this passage teach me about the early church?

How does this passage show me a different way to live my life today?

How can I apply this truth to my everyday interactions with the people around me?

With this in mind, read and reflect on the passages at your own pace. Pray that God will reveal His will and His Word to you in a new way through the reading of Acts.



Read the following passages and note your thoughts on how they show the *unstoppable* progress of the gospel. How does this inspire you? How can you apply this to your life today? 1:7-8 _____ 4:7-22 _____ 5:17-21a _____ 5: 41-42 _____ 7:54-8:8 9:1-19a _____ 11:1-21 _____ 12: 1-19 _____ 14:1-7 _____ 14:19-28 _____ 15:36-41 _____ 16:22-30 _____ 18:24-26 _____ 23:9-16 _____





These passages show *intelligent defense of the faith*. Some are big speeches, some are simply the apostles living life alongside unbelievers. Both are effective. Not everyone is called to give speeches, preach or teach. Living your life transparently might be the best way to prove that your faith is real.

2:29-36			
5:29-39			
7:1-53		 	
8:9-13	 	 	
10:34-43	 		
13:13-48	 	 	
14:15-17	 		
17:1-4			
17:10-12	 	 	
17:16-32			
18:1-4			
18:27-28	 	 	

Read about the potential of the church when empowered by the Holy Spirit. Miracles won hearts and minds for Christ. But so did the unity, discernment and humility of the apostles and early believers. How can you apply these truths to your life today? 1:1-5 2:1-8 _____ 2:42-47 _____ 3:1-10 ____ 4:1-16 _____ 4:23-31 _____ 4:32-37 5:12-16_____ 6:1-4_____ 8:26-40 _____ 9:19b-22 10:28-35 _____ 10:44-48 _____ 14:8-15 _____ 20:7-12 _____