

STUDY

Acts Bible Study Questions and Answers (Free PDF)

A 12-session walk through Acts, from the Ascension to Paul in Rome, with open questions for your own answers. Free to print, no sign-up.

A 12-session study of Acts for groups or solo reading.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:42 (NIV)

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12 (NIV)

The study guide

SESSION 1 · ACTS 1:1-26

Waiting for the Promise

For forty days the risen Jesus teaches his followers, then rises into heaven. They return to Jerusalem to pray and wait for the Spirit, and they choose Matthias to take Judas's place.

1. What does Jesus tell his followers to do and not do in Acts 1:4-8, and what happens at the end of Acts 1:9?

2. Why do you think Jesus answers a question about the kingdom with a promise about the Spirit and a call to be witnesses?

3. Where has God asked you to wait, and what does Acts 1:14 show you about how to wait?

SESSION 2 · ACTS 2:1-47

The Spirit Comes at Pentecost

The Holy Spirit falls on the believers in Jerusalem. Peter preaches Jesus crucified and risen, thousands respond, and the first church takes shape.

1. What happens in Acts 2:1-4, and how do the crowds respond in Acts 2:5-13?

2. What does Peter say Jesus has done and what does he call the people to do in Acts 2:22-38?

3. What in Acts 2:42-47 would you most want to see in your own church or group, and what is one step toward it?

SESSION 3 · ACTS 3:1-4:31

Boldness Before the Council

Peter and John heal a man lame from birth at the temple gate. Arrested, they stand before the same leaders who condemned Jesus and speak of him without fear.

1. What does the lame man ask for in Acts 3:2-3, and what does Peter give him in Acts 3:6-8?

2. What do the leaders notice about Peter and John in Acts 4:13, and what explains it?

3. When has fear kept you quiet about Jesus, and what does Acts 4:29-31 teach you to ask for?

SESSION 4 · ACTS 4:32-6:7

One Heart and the Seven

The early church shares what it has. Ananias and Sapphira lie about their gift and fall dead, the apostles obey God over the council, and seven men are chosen to serve neglected widows.

1. How do the believers care for one another in Acts 4:32-35, and what do Ananias and Sapphira do wrong in Acts 5:1-4?

2. Why do you think the apostles hand the daily service of food to seven others in Acts 6:2-4, and what happens as a result in Acts 6:7?

3. Where is there a need in your church that is being quietly missed, and what could you do about it this week?

SESSION 5 · ACTS 6:8-8:40

Stephen and the Scattering

Stephen preaches to the council and is stoned as the first martyr. The church is scattered, and Philip carries the gospel to Samaria and to an Ethiopian official on the road.

1. What does Stephen see in Acts 7:55-56 just before his death, and what does he pray in Acts 7:59-60?

2. How does God use the persecution in Acts 8:1-4 to advance the gospel, and how does Philip use his conversation in Acts 8:30-35?

3. Who is someone you find hard to forgive, and what does Stephen's prayer ask of you?

SESSION 6 · ACTS 9:1-31

Saul Meets Jesus

On the road to Damascus, the risen Jesus stops Saul, a persecutor of the church, and calls him to carry his name to the nations. Ananias and Barnabas take a risk on the man they feared.

1. What does Jesus say to Saul in Acts 9:4-6, and what does he tell Ananias about Saul in Acts 9:15-16?

2. Why do you think the Lord sends Ananias to Saul, and Barnabas to the disciples, rather than simply changing everyone's mind himself?

3. Who in your life seems too far gone, and what would it mean to show them the kind of welcome Ananias and Barnabas showed?

SESSION 7 · ACTS 9:32-12:25**The Gospel Reaches the Gentiles**

Peter is sent to the Gentile Cornelius and sees the Spirit fall on those he thought outside the promise. The church in Antioch grows, and Peter is freed from prison as the church prays.

1. What does Peter see and hear in Acts 10:9-16, and what does he say in Acts 10:34-35 after meeting Cornelius?

2. Why is it such a shock to the Jewish believers that the Spirit falls on the Gentiles in Acts 10:44-45, and how do they respond in Acts 11:18?

3. What group of people are you tempted to think are outside the reach of God's grace, and what might God be teaching you through Peter?

SESSION 8 · ACTS 13:1-14:28**Sent Out from Antioch**

The church at Antioch sets apart Barnabas and Saul, and the Spirit sends them out. They preach across Cyprus and Galatia, face opposition and a stoning, and return to report what God has done.

1. What is the church at Antioch doing when the Spirit speaks in Acts 13:2-3, and what do they do next?

2. What is Paul's message to the Jews in Pisidian Antioch, and why does he turn to the Gentiles in Acts 13:46-48?

3. Who has your church sent or supported, and what could you do to join in that work?

SESSION 9 · ACTS 15:1-16:40**The Council and the Philippian Jailer**

The church gathers in Jerusalem to decide whether Gentiles must keep the law of Moses. Paul then hears the call to Macedonia and, in a Philippi jail, sees a jailer and his household come to faith.

1. What is the dispute in Acts 15:1-5, and what does Peter say in Acts 15:11?

2. What do Paul and Silas do at midnight in Acts 16:25, and how does the jailer respond to the earthquake and their answer in Acts 16:30-34?

3. What is one thing you have been treating as a requirement for faith that the gospel does not require, and what could you let go of?

SESSION 10 · ACTS 17:1-18:28**Thessalonica, Athens, and Corinth**

Paul reasons from the Scriptures in Thessalonica and Berea, speaks to the philosophers of Athens, and spends a year and a half planting the church at Corinth.

1. How do the Bereans respond to Paul's message in Acts 17:11, and how do the Athenians respond to his speech in Acts 17:32-34?

2. Why does Paul begin at the altar to an unknown god in Acts 17:22-23 instead of quoting the Old Testament, and what does he end with in Acts 17:30-31?

3. How do you respond to a message you have not heard before, and what would it look like to test what you hear against Scripture?

SESSION 11 · ACTS 19:1-21:16**Ephesus and the Farewell**

Paul teaches in Ephesus for two years while the word spreads through Asia, and an uproar over the goddess Artemis erupts. On his way to Jerusalem he says goodbye to the elders and warns them of what lies ahead.

1. What happens in Ephesus in Acts 19:8-10 and 19:23-27, and what does Paul tell the elders to do in Acts 20:28?

2. What does Paul say his life is for in Acts 20:24, and what does he mean by quoting Jesus in Acts 20:35?

3. How does Paul's willingness to go to Jerusalem despite the warnings in Acts 21:10-14 challenge the way you think about obedience?

SESSION 12 · ACTS 21:17-28:31**Arrest and the Road to Rome**

Paul is arrested in Jerusalem and testifies before crowds, governors, and King Agrippa. He appeals to Caesar, survives a storm and shipwreck, and arrives in Rome, where he preaches freely under guard.

1. What does the Lord tell Paul in Acts 23:11, and what does he tell him in the storm in Acts 27:23-24?

2. Why do you think Luke ends the book with Paul under guard in Acts 28:30-31, rather than with his release or his death?

3. Where do you feel like you are in a storm or in chains, and how might God be using that place for the gospel?
