

The People of God in Mission—The Book of Acts

Reading the book of Acts is a wonderful way to discover and share the life-transforming power of the Gospel. Of the early church the Life with God Bible says, “God himself is inhabiting and living in them, giving them power to proclaim fearlessly the message of Jesus’ resurrection to everyone they meet.”

And so for us today, by reading Acts devotionally we can discover afresh the life transforming power of the Gospel. New life will so affect our hearts that we can’t help but share the life-saving message with others. Not on our own strength but by God’s power, Holy Spirit strength, we will be guided in mission.

This spiritual disciplines folder follows the Book of Acts on Sunday morning worship along with daily scripture reading and prayer. The book of Acts records how, after preaching, in-depth teaching took place in private households. So we can learn and grow in our love and understanding of the Gospel on a daily basis.

We can take this tremendous message of Christ out into our worlds at school, factory, grocery, sports event, and all. Wherever we go we can live and proclaim the Gospel. If the book of Acts shows us anything, the occasions to share the Gospel and be in mission will appear right before us in daily life.

To let the Gospel speak, find a quiet prayer place to go on a regular basis and have your Bible with folder readied for your time apart. Pour out any concerns to God and begin by reading the text. Re-read it for any word or phrase that catches your attention, and meditate upon that thought. Be still; listen to how God speaks.

Take that scripture into your day. Often you will find an experience where that scripture can guide you. Follow the leading you receive to be in mission. In this folder is an insert where you are invited to take the next incremental step in spiritual growth. By being intentional in this period, you can grow spiritually.



Sunday - August 26 - “You Will Be My Witnesses” Acts 1:1-11

- 8/27: Acts 1:12-26 – “Constantly Devoting Themselves to Prayer”
- 8/28: Acts 2:1-13 – “All filled with the Holy Spirit”
- 8/29: Acts 2: 14-21 – “I will pour out my spirit”
- 8/30: Acts 2: 22-36 – “my flesh will live in hope”
- 8/31: Acts 2: 37-42 – “the promise is for you”
- 9/1: Acts 2: 43-47 – “Awe came upon everyone”

Sunday - September 2 - “Stand Up and Walk” Acts 3:1-10

- 9/3: Acts 3:11-16 – “And by faith in his name”
- 9/4: Acts 3:17- 26 – “Repent therefore and turn to God”
- 9/5: Acts 4:1-12 – “No other name”
- 9/6: Acts 4:13-22 – “For we cannot stop speaking”
- 9/7: Acts 4:23-31 – “To speak your word with all boldness”
- 9/8: Acts 4:32-37 – “And great grace was upon them all”

Sunday - September 9 - “Being Honest with God” Acts 5:1-16

- 9/10 Acts 5:17-26 – An Angel of the Lord Opened the Door
- 9/11 Acts 5:27-32 – “We must obey God...”
- 9/12 Acts 5:33-42 – “If it is of God, you will not be able...”
- 9/13 Acts 6:1-7 – “Prayed and laid their hands on them”
- 9/14 Acts 6:8-15 – “The wisdom and the spirit...”
- 9/15 Acts 7:1-8 – “Resident aliens in a country...”

Sunday - September 16 - “God was with him, ... powerful in words and deeds” Acts 7:9-22

- 9/17 Acts 7:23-29 – Over stepping boundaries
- 9/18 Acts 7:30-34 – “take off your sandals”
- 9/19 Acts 7:35-43 – “living oracles to give to us”
- 9/20 Acts 7:44-53 – “forever opposing the Holy Spirit”
- 9/21 Acts 7:54-60 – “filled with the Holy Spirit”
- 9/22 Acts 8:1-8 – “so there was great joy in that city”

Sunday - September 23 - “Authentic Spiritual Power”
Acts 8:9-13

- 9/24 Acts 8:14-25 – Having your heart right with God
- 9/25 Acts 8:26-40 – Proclaiming the Good News
- 9/26 Acts 9:1-9 – “Who are you Lord?”
- 9/27 Acts 9:10-19a – The conversion of Paul
- 9/28 Acts 9:19b-25 – “He is the son of God”
- 9/29 Acts 9:26-31 – The church had peace and was built up

Sunday - September 30 - “The Life Saving Work of Jesus”
Acts 9:32-43

- 10/1 Acts 10:1-8 – Prayed constantly to God
- 10/2 Acts 10:9-16 – “Peter went up to the roof to pray”
- 10/3 Acts 10:17-23 – “Directed by a holy angel”
- 10/4 Acts 10:24-33 – God directs to send for Peter
- 10/5 Acts 10:34-43 – The Gentiles hear the Good News
- 10/6 Acts 10:44-48 – “He ordered them to be baptized”

Sunday - October 7 - World Communion Sunday
Acts 11:1-18 - Self-Examination and New Life
“The Repentance That Leads to Life”

- 10/8 Acts 11:19-30 – A great many people received the Lord
- 10/9 Acts 12:1-5 – “The church prayed fervently to God...”
- 10/10 Acts 12:6-11 – “It opened for them of its own accord”
- 10/11 Acts 12:12-19 – “They saw him and were amazed”
- 10/12 Acts 12:20-25 – “The word of the Lord continued to advance”
- 10/13 Acts 13:1-12 – “for he was astonished at the teaching...”

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© David S. Young, 2012 *Springs of Living Water!* This disciplines folder has been created to read the Book of Acts on a daily basis. Sunday texts flow right along in that pattern. Pastors may choose any other scripture to preach on as well. Using the copyright designation here, you may adapt this folder and copy.

In Springs of Living Water, we are in a partnership with Christ and with others seeking renewal of the church as an ongoing process of spiritual growth. Our hope is to live a Christ-centered mission as individuals and as the church. For more information see www.churchrenewalservant.org or email davidyoung@churchrenewalservant.org.



The People of God in Mission

Part 1

Disciplines Folder
Fall 2012
August 26-October 13
Church of the Brethren

Renewal Weekend, September 28-30, Western PA District

This Western PA spiritual disciplines folder is part of a combined renewal emphasis of the Somerset COB, Annual Conference Moderator Robert Krouse, the Springs of Living Water Initiative in Church Renewal, and all churches of the Western PA District. You are invited to participate in a weekend of renewal.

A focused weekend on the Church being in home mission is being planned for **September 28 and 29** at the Somerset Church. Our guest, Moderator Krouse, is a pastor and former missionary to Nigeria. All local churches who so discern can plan their own church renewal and mission service on Sunday **September 30**.

Friday: Somerset Church, 7:00 pm. Singing and preaching service with Bob Krouse - Theme: "The Path to God is Paved with Prayer." All are invited to this tremendous worship experience which will be based on the book of Acts.

Saturday: Somerset Church, 9:00 am-3:15 pm. Springs of Living Water event for all district churches. Topic: discerning a ministry unit and training to reach out with the Gospel in the local church and neighborhood. This day includes a second message from Moderator Krouse from the book of Acts. Lunch is provided.

Saturday: Somerset Church, 4:00-5:15 pm. Song Fest and third service of Bible study and preaching by Bob Krouse on the book of Acts. Dinner will follow at the church.

Saturday: Somerset Church, 7:00 p.m. A Concert of Prayer. A tremendous experience from Acts 4:31 where the entire place was shaken. In Nigeria, this is a powerful service of prayer and singing that is very restorative and moving to all.

Sunday: Back in your Home Church, regular services. If you so discern, this can be an opportunity to have an emphasis on renewal. You will find ample scriptures from the folder and can have an emphasis on renewal locally. Carry in meal optional.

Please register for lunch and dinner meal by contacting the Somerset COB – 814 445-8853.

Renewal Weekend, September 28-30, Western PA District

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