

The ACTS of the Apostles

What is our objective in this study of Acts?

1. To help each person in the class come to an understanding of the content and significance of the Book of Acts.
2. To enable each person in the class come to understand and interact with the most crucial, interesting, and difficult portions of the book.
3. To expose each person in the class to other relevant portions of the Old and New Testaments that relate to Acts.
4. To aid each person in the class come to appreciate the emphasis and significance of the book as it relates to modern Christian life and faith.

How will the class be conducted?

Each class will consist of an exposition and discussion of selected passages from Acts working through the book chapter by chapter. Notes from the class will be available on Jim's web site – apptoteach.org. A limited number of hard copies will be made available to those who do not have access to the web site. We will start slowly with introductory material and a more careful treatment of the first three chapters. As we move further into the book we will take larger sections (a chapter per week) for each class.

Who will teach the class?

Jim Abrahamson will do most of the teaching. When he is unavailable, other members of the class will have opportunity to teach and lead.

Will I miss out if I can't attend every class?

I hope so. It is realized that few people will attend every class. We will frequently review what has been covered and the class notes from the web site will help people keep up with what has been covered.

Will the emphasis of the teaching be more devotional or academic?

The teaching will be academically responsible and sensitive but pastoral in focus. We want to always be asking the question, "So what does this have to do with my life today?" We will assume that the people in the class have a basic understanding of Christian faith but we also want the class to be user friendly to those who are inquiring about Christianity.

Will there be time for open discussion?

Classes will vary in the time given to open discussion. It is hoped that there will be time for class interaction each week or as frequently as possible.

Will we cover every verse in Acts?

No! We will be selective as we work through the book. We will be careful not to avoid the most interesting and most difficult portions of each chapter but there will be some sections that do not get as much attention as others. This will especially be true in the last several chapters.

Tentative Class Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Text</i>	<i>Topic</i>
Oct. 5	Introduction	Act is the story of the fulfillment of the Promise of My Father.
Oct. 12	Introduction	Act is the story of the coming of the Spirit with Power.
Oct. 19	Introduction	Act is the story of the fulfillment of the Great Commission.
Oct. 26	Introduction	Act is the story of the coming of a New Covenant Community.
Nov. 2	1:1-5	“He is Alive” – Jesus continues to live in His church through His Spirit.
Nov. 9	1:6-14	God’s Spirit prepares to clear the bench – Christianity is not a spectator sport. We are all players
Nov. 16	1:15-26	“My Sheep hear My voice.” – We can cultivate “ears to hear” the Spirit of the ascended Lord.
Nov. 23	2:1-13	The beginning of the end – The power to talk and walk as the body of Christ is within our grasp.
Nov. 30	2:14-36	Preaching the True Gospel – The message that we bring to the world is centered in who Christ is and what He did.
Dec. 7	2:37-47	A marketing lesson from the Spirit – Our response to the Gospel should be like that of the early church.
Dec. 14	3:1-26	New Hope – The long age of suffering is over.
Dec. 21	4:1-37	Spiritual warfare – Community as a tool in spiritual warfare.
Dec. 28	5:1-42	Spiritual warfare – Divine judgment as a tool in spiritual warfare.
Jan. 4	6:1-7	Spiritual warfare – Administration as a tool in spiritual warfare.
Jan. 11	6:8-7:60	Spiritual warfare – Insight, Boldness, & Compassion – a lesson in witness.