

ACTS TEACHINGS

FOR BEST RESULTS, LISTEN, and OBEY

When you're doing all the right things you know you're supposed to be doing, but nothing seems to be right or fruitful.

Acts 16:6-10

- This was a season of perplexity.
- Traveling up to border at Mysia and then to Bithynia.
- Life in Jesus is A Rewarding Adventure
- Traveling through Phrygia and Galatia – no small endeavor.
 - For best results, listen and obey

3 things got Paul to Euro: Acts 16:6-9

3 Questions to Living in the Rewards of Jesus' Adventure:

What Am I Doing Here? Nothing / No Fruit to endeavors –

- _____
- _____

Lack of progress can be disturbing – i.e. the daily grind (laundry, dishes, etc), puzzle,

Is This Better? Narrowing My Choices –

- _____
- _____

Am I Open to Fresh Direction? Fresh Direction –

- _____
- _____

Paul came back through Asia at the end of this 2nd journey and had EXTREMELY effective and fruitful ministry in Ephesus. Stay grounded in the identity God has given you.

BRING JESUS INTO NOW

And behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him (Matthew 6:13b NKJV).

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8 NKJV).

I. Jesus Taught First 40 Days on Kingdom – Acts 1

Kingdom has structure, order, and purpose. (Jesus began to do and teach in chapter 1 verse 1)

To whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God (Acts 1:3 NKJV).

The burning bush in Exodus 3 now is revelation of Jesus 1500 years later. Without structure, power can be non-productive.

II. The Power Comes – Acts 2

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance

(Acts 2:4 NKJV).

And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. 7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? (Acts 2:6-8 NKJV)

Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs — we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God (Acts 2:9 – 11 NKJV).

Here comes the church's first altar call.

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:37-38 NKJV).

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (Acts 2:41 NKJV).

Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles (Acts 2:43 NKJV).

They continued steadfast in doctrine, fellowship, breaking bread, prayer.

III. The Glory – Acts 3

The glory is the manifestation of His presence. (Jesus undoubtedly passed this man many times. This miracle moved whole city. The glory (Presence) brings creative miracles. They happen suddenly.

Example : Touch cart in I Samuel. Glory not in things but people. This treasure in earthen vessel

COMING THROUGH THE STORM

I. GOD'S PROVISIONS - ACTS 27

1. Paul Was In God's Will (Called to Rome)

When these things were accomplished, Paul purposed in the Spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, "After I have been there, I must also see Rome" (Acts 19:21 NKJV).

Because you are in a storm doesn't mean you are out of the will of God.

2. Had Refreshment Before The Storm

And the next day we landed at Sidon. And Julius treated Paul kindly and gave him liberty to go to his friends and receive care (Acts 27:3 NKJV).

3. Julius, The Centurion, Became His Friend

And when it was decided that we should sail to Italy, they delivered Paul and some other prisoners to one named Julius, a centurion of the Augustan Regiment (Acts 27:1 NKJV).

There the centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing to Italy, and he put us on board (Acts 27:6 NKJV).

Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the helmsman and the owner of the ship than by the things spoken by Paul (Acts 27:11 NKJV).

Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, “Unless these men stay in the ship, you cannot be saved” (Acts 27:31 NKJV).

But the centurion, wanting to save Paul, kept them from their purpose, and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard first and get to land, 44 and the rest, some on boards and some on parts of the ship. And so it was that they all escaped safely to land (Acts 27: 43 NKJV).

4. An Angel

For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve (Acts 27:23 NKJV).

5. A Revelation

6. An Island

7. Paul’s Faith saved 276 men

II. WHAT TO DO IN A STORM

1. Pray and Fast

2. Listen to God

3. Be Certain You Are With Faith People

4. Encourage Yourself

Then they were all encouraged, and also took food themselves (Acts 27:36 NKJV).

III. SNAKES COME WITH STORMS – Act 28: 1 - 10

1. Snakes Bring Miracles

2. Miracles bring people

APPLICATION:

Name two crisis in your life:

- 1.) _____
- 2.) _____

Define two miracles for each crisis:

- 1.) _____
- 2.) _____

YOUR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST CHANGES OUR WORLD

Acts 4:29-31

Background:

1 – Opposition – Acts 4:29,

And now, Lord, take note of their threats. (NASU)

2 – Pray – Acts 4:29-30

...grant that your bond-servants may speak your word with all confidence, 30 while you extend your hand to heal, and sign and wonders take place through the name of your holy servant Jesus. (NASU)

3 – Transformations – Acts 4:31

And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness. (NASU)

Application:

- Boldness check
- Gift check
- Fruit check

POWER OF THE HELPER

The Helper – Power Connector

1. How does He help?

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. “He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.” (John 16:13-14 NKJV)

2. Who is the Helper?

He is a person.
He possesses knowledge.

...Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God (1 Corinthians 2:11 NKJV).

He possesses will.
He possesses feeling.

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption (Ephesians 4:30 NKJV).

He can act – He searches – He speaks – He intercedes – He comforts – He commands

3. How do you react to the Helper?

He can be grieved – Ephesians 4:30

He can be insulted.

He can be lied to – Acts 5:3

Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? (Hebrews 10:29 NKJV)

He can be received.

Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38 NKJV)

4. Who sends the Helper?

“But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. (John 15:26 NKJV)

5. Does praying in tongues help?

We are commanded to be filled

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18 NKJV)

It is scriptural – And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:4 NKJV).

a. Romans 8:26-27

- b. He helps you reach the world – But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth (Acts 1: 8 NKJV).
- c. He brings comfort in trial - And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied (Acts 9:31 NKJV).
- d. He brings deliverance - Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty (2 Corinthians 3:17 NKJV).
- e. He is a helper in death - But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God (Acts 7:54-55 NKJV).

6. What did those who received the helper do?

Are we a “Helper’s church?”

- We live in the Word -
And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers (Acts 2:42 NKJV).
- We pray
- We have miracles
- We have unity –
...and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need (Acts 2:45 NKJV).
- We trust God for provision
- We nurture each other – So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart (Acts 2:46 NKJV).

Belong To Be Supernatural – Early Church

- Outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost: Acts 2
Acts 2:41-42, So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about 3,000 souls. 42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.
- Crippled guy healed at temple gate – Acts 3
Acts 3:7-8, And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened. 8 With a leap he stood upright and began to walk; and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.
- Earthshaking prayer meeting resulting in greater boldness - Acts 4:29-31,
““Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence, 30 while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus.”
31 When they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.
- Church growing, tremendous healings (they were all being healed), miraculous escape from prison - Acts 5:14-25

A common denominator: _____ - Used 11x in NT and 10 in Acts

- 1:14 – Holy Spirit outpouring on Pentecost
- 2:46 – cripple being healed
- 4:24 – earthshaking prayer meeting resulting in greater boldness
- 5:12 – church growth, massive healings, miraculous prison escape

Belong To Be Supernatural

One Accord: intense, unified feeling

homothumadon; from homo and thumos; unanimously: KJV - with one accord (mind).

Rom 15:5-6, "May the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, 6 so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's start to be an answer to Jesus' prayer: John 17:22-23

Action Steps:

What Undermines "together": Critical spirit – fault finding, strife, gossip, dissension (Devil's strategy - divide) and Selfishness – Ananias and Saphira: Acts 5

What Encourages "together": Acts 2:42 and Acts 4:32 - Generosity, Spending time together, Commitment

Cultivate a habit of unity: Acts 2:46, "Day by day continuing with one mind . . .

Invite you to become a member and have homothumadon.

There is unrealized potential and unlimited future for this church family.