

Acts is:

About a <u>MOVEMENT</u>, not about <u>MOMENTS</u>.

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. Romans 8:11 (NLT)

Religion gives you **rules** to live by, the Spirit gives you a **purpose** to live for.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Galatians 5:25 (ESV)

Acts is:

• About **LIFE** change that changed others' **LIVES**.

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20 (NIV)

Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. Matthew 28:19 (MSG)

 The work of the Spirit is a <u>changed</u> life, and that change begins in <u>me</u>.

...the LORD added to their number daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:47 (NIV)

Some were persuaded by the things he said, but others did not believe. Acts 28:24 (NLT)

In kindness he (God) takes us firmly by the hand and leads us into a radical life change. Romans 2:4 (MSG) $\,$

To experience the Spirit's work in us we have to surrender to God's <u>message</u> to us.

For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved." But how can they call on him to save them <u>unless they believe in him</u>? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent?... Romans 10:13-15a (NLT)

...go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.Matthew 28:19

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15 (NLT) Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. Acts 9:1 (NLT)

As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" "Who are you, lord?" Saul asked. And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting! Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone's voice but saw no one! Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. Acts 9:3-8 (NLT)

... "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!" Acts 9:5 (NLT)

You can be sincere and <u>sincerely wrong</u>.

When the Holy Spirit, who is truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth...John 16:13 (TLB)

An important truth from Paul's conversion:

• No one is **so far gone** that Jesus can't save them.

(God) doesn't want anyone lost. He's giving everyone space and time to change. 2 Peter 3:9 (MSG)

Get past who you were and focus on who God wants you to become.

I am still not all I should be, but I am bringing all my energies to bear on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God is calling us up to heaven because of what Christ Jesus did for us. Philippians 3:12-14 (TLB)

Because God forgives us we must forgive <u>ourselves</u>.

My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear. Ps 38:4

• You can't change your **<u>past</u>** but Jesus can change your <u>future</u>.



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups: These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- What have you read in Acts that God has used to speak into your life? Explain.
- Spend some time sharing the difference Jesus has made in your life. What is one thing that Jesus has changed in your life?
- What does it mean to surrender to God's message to us? Why is this important?
- Have you ever been sincere about something and found out you were sincerely wrong? What are some ways that people are sincerely wrong about God's love for them? Why do people choose to live in religion rather than relationship?
- Why is it so difficult for us to move past who we use to be and focus on who God wants us to be?
- · Have you had to forgive yourself? What were some steps you took to forgive yourself?
- You can choose to be a Saul or a Paul What is the difference?
- · What are some steps you can take to continue to experience changed life?

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Doing life together

Today's Talk..



A CHANGED LIFE