

# MASTER THE CONTENT OF SCRIPTURE



## **The Book of Acts**

(Observe, Interpret, Apply & Go)

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# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

In our studies of the Bible, we will be using an inductive approach. This approach is a fun and exciting way to study the Bible! It's like being a detective. Instead of starting with a conclusion, you look at the details and clues in the text to discover the meaning for yourself.

## Here's how you can do it:

1. **Observation:** First, you look closely at the Bible passage. You pay attention to:

- a. Who is in the story
- b. What is happening
- c. Where it is taking place
- d. When it is happening
- e. Why things are happening
- f. How they are happening.

You write down or make a mental note of all the details you notice.

2. **Interpretation:** Next, you try to understand what those details mean.

- a. You think about why the characters did what they did
- b. You think about what the important words and phrases mean.
- c. You may need to look up some words or ask questions to understand better.

3. **Application:** Finally, you think about how the story applies to our lives. What truth does it communicate?

- a. **What does it teach us about God?**
- b. What does it teach us about ourselves?
- c. What action (s) does it call us to take?

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## CHAPTER ONE

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 1, Jesus appears to His apostles after His resurrection, teaching them about the kingdom of God. He instructs them to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit. After 40 days, Jesus ascends to heaven. The apostles return to Jerusalem and join in prayer with other believers, including Mary, Jesus' mother, and His brothers. Peter leads the group in choosing a replacement for Judas Iscariot, and Matthias is selected as the new apostle.

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### Opening Question

Why do you think it was important for the apostles to wait for the Holy Spirit before beginning their mission?

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### Outline

#### 1. Jesus' Final Instructions (Acts 1:1-8)

- Teaching about the kingdom of God
- Command to wait for the Holy Spirit

Application Question: How can we ensure we are following God's timing in our lives?

#### 2. The Ascension of Jesus (Acts 1:9-11)

- Jesus taken up to heaven
- Promise of His return

Application Question: How does the promise of Jesus' return affect how we live today?

#### 3. The Apostles in Jerusalem (Acts 1:12-14)

- Return to Jerusalem
- Devotion to prayer

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Application Question: What role does prayer play in our community and personal lives?

4. Choosing Matthias (Acts 1:15-26)
  - Peter's leadership
  - Selection of Matthias to replace Judas

Application Question: How do we make decisions in our lives and communities?

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## Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge
    - Memorize Acts 1:8: "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."
  2. Role Playing Activity
    - Students reenact the ascension of Jesus and the selection of Matthias.
  3. Discussion Activity
    - Discuss the significance of the apostles waiting for the Holy Spirit and how they can apply patience and obedience in their own lives.
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## Quiz

1. Who appeared to the apostles after His resurrection?
  - Jesus
  - Peter
  - John
  - Paul
2. What did Jesus teach the apostles about?

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- The law
  - The kingdom of God
  - The church
  - The prophets
3. Where were the apostles instructed to wait?
- Galilee
  - Samaria
  - Jerusalem
  - Rome
4. How many days did Jesus appear to the apostles after His resurrection?
- 10
  - 20
  - 30
  - 40
5. Who ascended to heaven in Acts 1?
- Peter
  - John
  - Jesus
  - James
6. Who joined the apostles in prayer in Jerusalem?
- The Pharisees
  - Mary, Jesus' mother, and His brothers
  - The Roman soldiers
  - The prophets
7. Who led the group in choosing a replacement for Judas?
- James
  - John
  - Peter
  - Andrew
8. Who was chosen to replace Judas Iscariot?

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- Barnabas
  - Silas
  - Matthias
  - Timothy
9. What did the apostles receive before beginning their mission?
- Money
  - Power from the Holy Spirit
  - Weapons
  - Books
10. How was Matthias chosen?
- By lot
  - By vote
  - By Jesus
  - By prophecy

Answers: 1. Jesus, 2. The kingdom of God, 3. Jerusalem, 4. 40, 5. Jesus, 6. Mary, Jesus' mother, and His brothers, 7. Peter, 8. Matthias, 9. Power from the Holy Spirit, 10. By lot

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus appeared to the apostles after His \_\_\_\_\_.
2. He taught them about the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
3. They were instructed to wait in \_\_\_\_\_ for the Holy Spirit.
4. After 40 days, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to heaven.
5. The apostles joined in \_\_\_\_\_ with other believers.
6. Peter led the group in choosing a replacement for \_\_\_\_\_.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ was selected as the new apostle.

Answers: resurrection, kingdom, Jerusalem, ascended, prayer, Judas, Matthias

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Apostle - A messenger and ambassador, derived from the Greek word "apostolos" meaning "one who is sent away."
2. Ascension - The act of rising to an important position or a higher level, derived from the Greek word "anabasis" meaning "ascent."
3. Resurrection - The act of rising from the dead, derived from the Greek word "anastasis" meaning "a raising up."
4. Holy Spirit - The third person of the Trinity, derived from the Greek word "pneuma" meaning "spirit" or "breath."
5. Kingdom of God - The realm in which God reigns supreme, derived from the Greek word "basileia" meaning "kingdom."
6. Prayer - A solemn request for help or expression of thanks addressed to God, derived from the Greek word "proseuche" meaning "prayer."
7. Disciple - A follower or student of a teacher, derived from the Greek word "mathetes" meaning "learner."
8. Lot - An object used to make a decision by chance, derived from the Greek word "kleros" meaning "lot" or "inheritance."

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## CHAPTER TWO

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 2, the Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles during Pentecost, enabling them to speak in various languages. Peter delivers a powerful sermon explaining that this event fulfills prophecy and proclaims Jesus as the Messiah. His message leads to the baptism and conversion of about 3,000 people. The new believers devote themselves to the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer. The chapter concludes with the early church growing, sharing possessions, and experiencing communal life.

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### Opening Question

How would you feel witnessing a miraculous event like the apostles speaking in different languages at Pentecost?

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### Outline

#### 1. The Coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-13)

- The apostles gathered during Pentecost
- The Holy Spirit descends, enabling them to speak in various languages
- Onlookers' reactions: amazement and skepticism

Application Question: How can we recognize and respond to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

#### 2. Peter's Sermon (Acts 2:14-41)

- Peter explains the fulfillment of prophecy
- Proclaims Jesus as the Messiah
- Calls for repentance and baptism



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- About 3,000 people are baptized

Application Question: What steps can we take to share the message of Jesus with others?

## 3. The Fellowship of the Believers (Acts 2:42-47)

- Devotion to the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer
- Sharing possessions and meeting needs
- Growth of the early church

Application Question: How can we foster a sense of community and support within our own church?

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## Possible Activities

### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 2:38: "Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"

### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the events of Pentecost and Peter's sermon.

### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the impact of the Holy Spirit on the apostles and how the Holy Spirit works in our lives today.
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## Quiz

### 1. During what event did the Holy Spirit descend on the apostles?

- Passover
- Pentecost
- Feast of Tabernacles
- Hanukkah

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2. What ability did the Holy Spirit give the apostles?
  - Healing
  - Speaking in various languages
  - Prophesying
  - Writing scriptures
3. Who delivered the sermon explaining the event of Pentecost?
  - John
  - James
  - Peter
  - Paul
4. How many people were baptized after Peter's sermon?
  - 1,000
  - 2,000
  - 3,000
  - 4,000
5. What did the new believers devote themselves to?
  - Apostles' teaching
  - Fellowship
  - Breaking of bread and prayer
  - All of the above
6. What was the reaction of the onlookers to the apostles speaking in different languages?
  - Anger
  - Amazement and skepticism
  - Indifference
  - Confusion
7. What did Peter say they would receive upon repentance and baptism?
  - Wealth
  - The Holy Spirit
  - Fame
  - Wisdom

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8. How did the early church share their possessions?
  - They kept everything for themselves
  - They sold property and possessions to give to anyone in need
  - They only shared with family
  - They donated to the temple
9. How often did the believers meet together in the temple courts?
  - Weekly
  - Daily
  - Monthly
  - Annually
10. What was the result of the believers' communal life and devotion?
  - Decrease in numbers
  - Increase in numbers and favor with all the people
  - Isolation from society
  - Persecution

Answers: 1. Pentecost, 2. Speaking in various languages, 3. Peter, 4. 3,000, 5. All of the above, 6. Amazement and skepticism, 7. The Holy Spirit, 8. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone in need, 9. Daily, 10. Increase in numbers and favor with all the people

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## Fill in the Blank

1. The Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles during \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The apostles were able to speak in various \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Peter delivered a sermon explaining the fulfillment of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. About \_\_\_\_\_ people were baptized after Peter's sermon.
5. The new believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and \_\_\_\_\_.

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6. The early church shared their possessions and sold property to give to anyone in \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The believers met together in the temple courts \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: Pentecost, languages, prophecy, 3,000, prayer, need, daily

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Pentecost - A Jewish feast held 50 days after Passover, from the Greek word "Pentēkostē" meaning "fiftieth."
2. Prophecy - A prediction or message inspired by God, from the Greek word "prophēteia" meaning "prediction."
3. Apostle - A messenger and ambassador, from the Greek word "apostolos" meaning "one who is sent away."
4. Baptism - The act of being immersed in water as a sign of purification and admission to the Christian Church, from the Greek word "baptisma" meaning "immersion."
5. Holy Spirit - The third person of the Trinity, from the Greek word "pneuma" meaning "spirit" or "breath."
6. Repentance - The action of feeling remorseful and changing one's mind, from the Greek word "metanoia" meaning "a change of mind."
7. Fellowship - Friendly association, especially with people who share one's interests, from the Greek word "koinonia" meaning "communion" or "participation."
8. Devotion - Love, loyalty, or enthusiasm for a person, activity, or cause, from the Greek word "proskarteresis" meaning "steadfastness."

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## *CHAPTER THREE*

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 3, Peter and John heal a lame man at the temple gate called Beautiful, drawing a crowd. Peter seizes the opportunity to preach about Jesus, explaining that the healing was done in Jesus' name. He urges the people to repent and turn to God so that their sins may be wiped out. Peter emphasizes that Jesus is the Messiah foretold by the prophets and that they acted out of ignorance in crucifying Him. The chapter ends with Peter calling for repentance and the promise of God's blessings.

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### Opening Question

How do you think you would react if you witnessed a miraculous healing?

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### Outline

#### 1. Healing of the Lame Man (Acts 3:1-10)

- Peter and John at the temple gate called Beautiful
- Healing the lame man in Jesus' name
- Reaction of the people: amazement and wonder

Application Question: How can we show compassion and help others in need today?

#### 2. Peter's Sermon at Solomon's Colonnade (Acts 3:11-26)

- Peter explains the miracle and preaches about Jesus
- Emphasis on Jesus as the Messiah and the fulfillment of prophecy
- Call to repentance and turning to God

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Application Question: In what ways can we share our faith and the message of Jesus with those around us?

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## Possible Activities

### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 3:6: "Then Peter said, 'Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.'"

### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the healing of the lame man and Peter's sermon.

### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of miracles in the early church and how we can recognize God's work in our lives today.
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## Quiz

### 1. Who were the two apostles at the temple gate?

- Peter and James
- John and Andrew
- Peter and John
- James and Andrew

### 2. What was the name of the temple gate?

- Beautiful
- Golden
- Silver
- Eastern

### 3. What did Peter say he did not have to give the lame man?

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- Food
  - Money
  - Clothes
  - Shelter
4. In whose name did Peter heal the lame man?
- Moses
  - Abraham
  - David
  - Jesus Christ of Nazareth
5. Where did the crowd gather after the healing?
- Solomon's Colonnade
  - The market
  - The synagogue
  - The temple courtyard
6. What did Peter urge the people to do?
- Pray
  - Repent
  - Fast
  - Sacrifice
7. Peter said the people acted out of what when they crucified Jesus?
- Malice
  - Ignorance
  - Knowledge
  - Fear
8. What did Peter say would happen if the people repented?
- They would receive wealth
  - Their sins would be wiped out
  - They would gain power
  - They would receive land
9. Who did Peter say foretold the coming of Jesus?

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- The prophets
- The Pharisees
- The Sadducees
- The Romans

10. What did Peter promise would come from repentance?

- God's blessings
- A new temple
- Political power
- Earthly riches

Answers: 1. Peter and John, 2. Beautiful, 3. Money, 4. Jesus Christ of Nazareth, 5. Solomon's Colonnade, 6. Repent, 7. Ignorance, 8. Their sins would be wiped out, 9. The prophets, 10. God's blessings

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Fill in the Blank

1. Peter and John went to the temple gate called \_\_\_\_\_.
2. They healed a \_\_\_\_\_ man.
3. Peter said, "Silver or \_\_\_\_\_ I do not have."
4. The healing was done in the name of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The people reacted with amazement and \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Peter preached at \_\_\_\_\_ Colonnade.
7. He urged the people to \_\_\_\_\_ and turn to God.
8. Peter said their sins would be \_\_\_\_\_ out.

Answers: Beautiful, lame, gold, Jesus, wonder, Solomon's, repent, wiped

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Apostle - A messenger and ambassador, from the Greek word "apostolos" meaning "one who is sent away."
2. Lamé - Unable to walk without difficulty as the result of an injury or illness affecting the leg or foot, from the Greek word "chōlos" meaning "crippled."
3. Colonnade - A row of columns supporting a roof, from the Greek word "stoa" meaning "portico."
4. Repentance - The action of feeling remorseful and changing one's mind, from the Greek word "metanoia" meaning "a change of mind."
5. Miracle - An extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs, from the Greek word "thauma" meaning "wonder."
6. Prophecy - A prediction or message inspired by God, from the Greek word "prophēteia" meaning "prediction."
7. Ignorance - Lack of knowledge or information, from the Greek word "agnoia" meaning "not knowing."
8. Blessings - God's favor and protection, from the Greek word "eulogia" meaning "praise" or "good speaking."

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## CHAPTER FOUR

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 4, Peter and John are arrested for preaching about Jesus and the resurrection. They are brought before the Sanhedrin, where Peter boldly defends their actions, stating they must obey God rather than human authorities. The Sanhedrin, unable to deny the miracle, releases them with a warning. The believers pray for boldness, and the place where they meet is shaken, filling them with the Holy Spirit. The chapter concludes with a description of the early church's unity, generosity, and the apostles' continued preaching with great power.

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### Opening Question

How would you respond if you were told to stop talking about something in which you deeply believed?

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### Outline

#### 1. Peter and John Arrested (Acts 4:1-4)

- Preaching about Jesus and the resurrection
- Arrest by the priests, the captain of the temple guard, and the Sadducees
- About 5,000 men believed

Application Question: What can we learn from Peter and John's courage to speak the truth despite opposition?

#### 2. Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:5-22)

- Peter's bold defense
- The miracle acknowledged by the Sanhedrin

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- The apostles released with a warning

Application Question: How can we stand firm in our faith when faced with challenges or opposition?

## 3. The Believers Pray for Boldness (Acts 4:23-31)

- Report to the other believers
- Prayer for boldness
- The place shaken, filling them with the Holy Spirit

Application Question: How important is prayer in seeking strength and guidance in our lives?

## 4. The Early Church's Unity and Generosity (Acts 4:32-37)

- Believers sharing possessions
- Testimony to the resurrection with great power
- Barnabas sells a field and brings the money to the apostles

Application Question: How can we demonstrate generosity and unity within our community today?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 4:12: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the scene of Peter and John before the Sanhedrin.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the importance of boldness in sharing one's faith and how the Holy Spirit empowers believers.

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## Quiz

1. Who were arrested for preaching about Jesus and the resurrection?
  - Peter and James
  - John and Andrew
  - Peter and John
  - James and Andrew
2. Who arrested Peter and John?
  - The Pharisees
  - The priests, the captain of the temple guard, and the Sadducees
  - The Romans
  - The high priests
3. How many men believed after Peter's preaching?
  - 3,000
  - 4,000
  - 5,000
  - 6,000
4. Before whom were Peter and John brought?
  - The Roman governor
  - The Sanhedrin
  - King Herod
  - The Pharisees
5. What was Peter's defense before the Sanhedrin?
  - They must obey God rather than human authorities
  - They were innocent of any wrongdoing
  - They were following Roman law
  - They were misunderstood
6. What was the reaction of the Sanhedrin to the miracle?

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- Denial
  - Indifference
  - Acknowledgement
  - Anger
7. What did the believers pray for after Peter and John were released?
- Safety
  - Boldness
  - Wealth
  - Power
8. What happened after the believers prayed?
- They were arrested again
  - The place was shaken, and they were filled with the Holy Spirit
  - They fled the city
  - They held a feast
9. How did the early church demonstrate unity and generosity?
- By holding meetings
  - By sharing possessions and meeting each other's needs
  - By building a temple
  - By writing letters
10. Who sold a field and brought the money to the apostles?
- Peter
  - John
  - Barnabas
  - Ananias

Answers: 1. Peter and John, 2. The priests, the captain of the temple guard, and the Sadducees, 3. 5,000, 4. The Sanhedrin, 5. They must obey God rather than human authorities, 6. Acknowledgement, 7. Boldness, 8. The place was shaken, and they were filled with the Holy Spirit, 9. By sharing possessions and meeting each other's needs, 10. Barnabas

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Peter and John were arrested for preaching about \_\_\_\_\_.
2. They were brought before the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Peter stated that they must obey \_\_\_\_\_ rather than human authorities.
4. The Sanhedrin acknowledged the \_\_\_\_\_ but released them with a warning.
5. The believers prayed for \_\_\_\_\_ after Peter and John were released.
6. The place where they met was \_\_\_\_\_, and they were filled with the Holy Spirit.
7. The early church showed unity by sharing \_\_\_\_\_.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ sold a field and brought the money to the apostles.

Answers: Jesus, Sanhedrin, God, miracle, boldness, shaken, possessions, Barnabas

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Sanhedrin - The supreme council and tribunal of the Jews during postexilic times, from the Greek word "synedrion" meaning "council."
2. Boldness - The quality of having a strong, vivid, or clear appearance, from the Greek word "parrhesia" meaning "freedom of speech" or "confidence."
3. Miracle - An extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs, from the Greek word "thauma" meaning "wonder."
4. Resurrection - The act of rising from the dead, from the Greek word "anastasis" meaning "a raising up."
5. Generosity - The quality of being kind and generous, from the Greek word "eulogia" meaning "blessing" or "good deed."

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6. Unity - The state of being united or joined as a whole, from the Greek word "henosis" meaning "union."
7. Possessions - Items or property owned by someone, from the Greek word "ktēma" meaning "possession" or "property."
8. Prayer - A solemn request for help or expression of thanks addressed to God, from the Greek word "proseuche" meaning "prayer."

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## CHAPTER FIVE

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 5, Ananias and Sapphira lie about the proceeds of a land sale and are struck dead for their deceit. This event instills great fear in the church. The apostles continue performing miracles, leading to more believers joining them. However, the high priest and Sadducees arrest the apostles. An angel frees them, and they continue preaching. Brought before the Sanhedrin again, Peter asserts their obedience to God over men. Gamaliel, a Pharisee, advises caution in dealing with them. The apostles are flogged but rejoice in suffering for Jesus and continue to preach daily.

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### Opening Question

Why do you think honesty and integrity are important in our relationships with others and with God?

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### Outline

#### 1. The Deceit and Death of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11)

- Ananias and Sapphira's lie about the proceeds of their land sale
- Immediate death as a consequence
- Great fear among the believers

Application Question: How can we practice honesty and integrity in our daily lives?

#### 2. The Apostles Heal Many (Acts 5:12-16)

- Miraculous signs and wonders by the apostles
- Increasing number of believers



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- People bringing the sick to be healed

Application Question: In what ways can we serve and help those in need in our community?

## 3. The Apostles Arrested and Freed (Acts 5:17-21)

- High priest and Sadducees arrest the apostles
- Angel of the Lord frees them from prison
- Apostles return to preaching in the temple courts

Application Question: How should we respond when faced with opposition or challenges to our faith?

## 4. The Apostles Before the Sanhedrin (Acts 5:22-42)

- Peter and the apostles assert obedience to God over human authorities
- Gamaliel's counsel to the Sanhedrin
- Apostles flogged but rejoice and continue preaching

Application Question: What can we learn from the apostles' boldness and joy in the face of persecution?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 5:29: "Peter and the other apostles replied: 'We must obey God rather than human beings!'"

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the story of Ananias and Sapphira, focusing on the importance of honesty and integrity.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss how the early church's experiences with persecution can inspire and encourage us in our own faith journeys.

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## Quiz

1. Who lied about the proceeds of a land sale?
  - Ananias and Sapphira
  - Peter and John
  - Barnabas and Saul
  - Priscilla and Aquila
2. What happened to Ananias and Sapphira after their lie was exposed?
  - They were forgiven
  - They were exiled
  - They were struck dead
  - They were imprisoned
3. What effect did the death of Ananias and Sapphira have on the church?
  - Anger
  - Confusion
  - Great fear
  - Indifference
4. Who arrested the apostles for performing miracles?
  - The Romans
  - The high priest and Sadducees
  - The Pharisees
  - The temple guards
5. Who freed the apostles from prison?
  - A Roman soldier
  - Peter
  - An angel of the Lord
  - John
6. What did the apostles do after being freed from prison?
  - Fled the city
  - Returned to preaching in the temple courts

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- Went into hiding
  - Reported to the Sanhedrin
7. Who counseled the Sanhedrin to be cautious in dealing with the apostles?
- Peter
  - John
  - Gamaliel
  - Caiaphas
8. What was the apostles' response to being flogged?
- Anger
  - Fear
  - Rejoicing
  - Silence
9. What did Peter and the apostles say they must obey?
- The high priest
  - The Roman law
  - God rather than human beings
  - The Sanhedrin
10. How did the apostles continue their ministry after their release?
- They stopped preaching
  - They left Jerusalem
  - They continued to preach daily
  - They wrote letters

Answers: 1. Ananias and Sapphira, 2. They were struck dead, 3. Great fear, 4. The high priest and Sadducees, 5. An angel of the Lord, 6. Returned to preaching in the temple courts, 7. Gamaliel, 8. Rejoicing, 9. God rather than human beings, 10. They continued to preach daily

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Ananias and Sapphira lied about the proceeds of a \_\_\_\_\_ sale.
2. They were struck \_\_\_\_\_ for their deceit.
3. The apostles continued performing \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The high priest and Sadducees \_\_\_\_\_ the apostles.
5. An \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord freed them from prison.
6. The apostles said they must obey \_\_\_\_\_ rather than human beings.
7. Gamaliel counseled the Sanhedrin to be \_\_\_\_\_ in dealing with the apostles.
8. The apostles rejoiced in suffering for \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: land, dead, miracles, arrested, angel, God, cautious, Jesus

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Deceit - The act of concealing or misrepresenting the truth, from the Greek word "dolos" meaning "deceit" or "craft."
2. Apostles - The early followers of Jesus who spread his teachings, from the Greek word "apostolos" meaning "one who is sent away."
3. Miracle - An extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs, from the Greek word "thauma" meaning "wonder."
4. Sadducees - A Jewish sect that denied the resurrection of the dead, from the Greek word "Saddukaioi" meaning "followers of Zadok."
5. Sanhedrin - The supreme council and tribunal of the Jews during postexilic times, from the Greek word "synedrion" meaning "council."
6. Obey - To comply with the command or direction of, from the Greek word "hypakouo" meaning "to listen, to harken."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

7. Integrity - The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles, from the Greek word "adiaphthoria" meaning "incorruptibility."
8. Persecution - Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of religious beliefs, from the Greek word "diogmos" meaning "pursuit."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER SIX

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 6, the early church addresses a conflict where Greek-speaking widows were being neglected in the daily food distribution. The apostles appoint seven men, including Stephen and Philip, to oversee this task, ensuring fairness. Stephen, full of faith and the Holy Spirit, performs miracles and speaks with wisdom. However, some members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen oppose him, falsely accusing him of blasphemy. Stephen is brought before the Sanhedrin, where false witnesses testify against him. Despite the accusations, Stephen's face shines like an angel's.

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### Opening Question

Why do you think it is important to address and resolve conflicts within a community?

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### Outline

#### 1. The Appointment of the Seven (Acts 6:1-7)

- Conflict over the neglect of Greek-speaking widows in food distribution
- Apostles appoint seven men to oversee the task
- Stephen and Philip among the appointed

Application Question: How can we ensure fairness and address needs within our own community?

#### 2. Stephen's Ministry (Acts 6:8-10)

- Stephen performs great wonders and signs
- Opposition from the Synagogue of the Freedmen

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Stephen speaks with wisdom and the Spirit

Application Question: In what ways can we demonstrate faith and wisdom in our daily lives?

## 3. Stephen Seized and Accused (Acts 6:11-15)

- False accusations of blasphemy against Stephen
- Brought before the Sanhedrin
- Stephen's face shines like an angel

Application Question: How should we respond when falsely accused or misunderstood?

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## Possible Activities

### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 6:8: "Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people."

### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the appointment of the seven men and the conflict resolution process.

### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss how Stephen's faith and wisdom can inspire us to stand firm in our beliefs even when facing opposition.
- 

## Quiz

### 1. What was the conflict in the early church about?

- Teaching methods

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Food distribution to widows
  - Language differences
  - Financial issues
2. How many men were appointed to oversee the food distribution?
- Five
  - Six
  - Seven
  - Eight
3. Who were two of the men appointed to oversee the task?
- Peter and John
  - Stephen and Philip
  - Paul and Barnabas
  - James and Andrew
4. What was Stephen full of?
- Wealth
  - Knowledge
  - Faith and the Holy Spirit
  - Power and strength
5. Who opposed Stephen's ministry?
- The Romans
  - The Pharisees
  - The Synagogue of the Freedmen
  - The Sadducees
6. What did the opposition accuse Stephen of?
- Stealing
  - Blasphemy
  - Lying
  - Cheating
7. Where was Stephen brought after being accused?
- The temple



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- The marketplace
  - The Sanhedrin
  - The synagogue
8. What did Stephen's face look like when he stood before the Sanhedrin?
- Angry
  - Sad
  - Joyful
  - Like an angel's
9. What role did the seven appointed men play in the early church?
- Preaching
  - Overseeing food distribution
  - Teaching
  - Building the temple
10. What was the main reason for appointing the seven men?
- To preach to the Gentiles
  - To resolve the conflict over food distribution
  - To write letters to other churches
  - To guard the temple

Answers: 1. Food distribution to widows, 2. Seven, 3. Stephen and Philip, 4. Faith and the Holy Spirit, 5. The Synagogue of the Freedmen, 6. Blasphemy, 7. The Sanhedrin, 8. Like an angel's, 9. Overseeing food distribution, 10. To resolve the conflict over food distribution

---

Fill in the Blank

1. The early church faced a conflict over the neglect of \_\_\_\_\_ widows.
2. The apostles appointed \_\_\_\_\_ men to oversee the task.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ and Philip were among the appointed.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

4. Stephen was full of faith and the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen opposed \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Stephen was falsely accused of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Stephen was brought before the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Stephen's face shone like an \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: Greek-speaking, seven, Stephen, Holy Spirit, Stephen, blasphemy, Sanhedrin, angel's

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Apostles - The early followers of Jesus who spread his teachings, from the Greek word "apostolos" meaning "one who is sent away."
2. Synagogue - A Jewish house of worship, from the Greek word "synagōgē" meaning "assembly."
3. Blasphemy - The act of insulting or showing contempt for God, from the Greek word "blasphēmia" meaning "evil speaking."
4. Sanhedrin - The supreme council and tribunal of the Jews during postexilic times, from the Greek word "synedrion" meaning "council."
5. Conflict - A serious disagreement or argument, from the Greek word "machē" meaning "battle."
6. Ministry - The work or vocation of a minister of religion, from the Greek word "diakonia" meaning "service."
7. Wisdom - The quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment, from the Greek word "sophia" meaning "wisdom."
8. Angel - A messenger of God, from the Greek word "angelos" meaning "messenger."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER SEVEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 7, Stephen delivers a powerful speech to the Sanhedrin, recounting Israel's history from Abraham to Solomon, emphasizing God's faithfulness and Israel's repeated disobedience. He accuses the Sanhedrin of resisting the Holy Spirit and betraying and murdering Jesus, the Righteous One. Enraged, the Sanhedrin stones Stephen, making him the first Christian martyr. As he dies, Stephen prays for his persecutors and sees a vision of Jesus standing at the right hand of God. Saul (later Paul) is introduced as a witness to Stephen's martyrdom.

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### Opening Question

How do you think you would respond if you were faced with severe opposition because of your faith?

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### Outline

1. Stephen's Speech to the Sanhedrin (Acts 7:1-53)
  - Recounting the history of Israel from Abraham to Solomon
  - Emphasizing God's faithfulness and Israel's disobedience
  - Accusation against the Sanhedrin for resisting the Holy Spirit and betraying Jesus

Application Question: How can we remain faithful to God even when facing opposition?

2. Stephen's Martyrdom (Acts 7:54-60)
  - The Sanhedrin's rage and Stephen's vision of Jesus
  - Stephen's stoning and his prayers for his persecutors
  - Introduction of Saul as a witness to the martyrdom

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: What can we learn from Stephen's courage and forgiveness?

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## Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge
    - Memorize Acts 7:59-60: "While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he fell on his knees and cried out, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he fell asleep."
  2. Role Playing Activity
    - Students reenact Stephen's speech and martyrdom, focusing on his faithfulness and forgiveness.
  3. Discussion Activity
    - Discuss the significance of Stephen's vision of Jesus and how visions and dreams can play a role in faith.
- 

## Quiz

1. Who delivers a speech to the Sanhedrin in Acts 7?
  - Peter
  - John
  - Stephen
  - Paul
2. What does Stephen recount in his speech?
  - The history of Israel
  - The miracles of Jesus

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- His personal testimony
- The end times
- 3. What does Stephen accuse the Sanhedrin of doing?
  - Resisting the Holy Spirit
  - Betraying and murdering Jesus
  - Breaking the law
  - Both A and B
- 4. What vision does Stephen see as he is being stoned?
  - Angels descending
  - The heavens opening and Jesus standing at the right hand of God
  - A new Jerusalem
  - Moses and Elijah
- 5. Who is introduced as a witness to Stephen's martyrdom?
  - Peter
  - James
  - Saul
  - Barnabas
- 6. What does Stephen pray for as he is being stoned?
  - Strength
  - Revenge
  - Forgiveness for his persecutors
  - Deliverance
- 7. How does Stephen describe Jesus in his speech?
  - As a prophet
  - As the Righteous One
  - As a teacher
  - As the Messiah
- 8. What was Stephen's role in the early church?
  - Apostle
  - Deacon

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Elder
  - Pastor
9. What was the reaction of the Sanhedrin to Stephen's speech?
- They were convinced
  - They were confused
  - They were enraged
  - They were indifferent
10. How does Acts 7 describe Stephen's death?
- He fell asleep
  - He was taken up to heaven
  - He was buried
  - He disappeared

Answers: 1. Stephen, 2. The history of Israel, 3. Both A and B, 4. The heavens opening and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, 5. Saul, 6. Forgiveness for his persecutors, 7. As the Righteous One, 8. Deacon, 9. They were enraged, 10. He fell asleep

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Stephen delivers a powerful speech to the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Stephen recounts Israel's history from \_\_\_\_\_ to Solomon.
3. Stephen accuses the Sanhedrin of resisting the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The Sanhedrin stones Stephen, making him the first Christian \_\_\_\_\_.
5. As he dies, Stephen prays for his \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Stephen sees a vision of \_\_\_\_\_ standing at the right hand of God.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is introduced as a witness to Stephen's martyrdom.
8. Stephen prays, "Lord, do not hold this \_\_\_\_\_ against them."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Answers: Sanhedrin, Abraham, Holy Spirit, martyr, persecutors, Jesus, Saul, sin

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Sanhedrin - The supreme council and tribunal of the Jews during postexilic times, from the Greek word "synedrion" meaning "council."
2. Martyr - A person who is killed because of their religious or other beliefs, from the Greek word "martyr" meaning "witness."
3. Vision - An experience of seeing something in a dream or trance, from the Greek word "horama" meaning "sight."
4. Persecutor - Someone who harasses or oppresses, especially because of religious beliefs, from the Greek word "diōktēs" meaning "pursuer."
5. Disobedience - Failure to obey rules or someone in authority, from the Greek word "parakoē" meaning "hearing amiss."
6. Faithfulness - The quality of being loyal and reliable, from the Greek word "pistis" meaning "faith."
7. Forgiveness - The action of forgiving or being forgiven, from the Greek word "aphesis" meaning "release."
8. Accuse - To charge someone with an offense or crime, from the Greek word "katēgoreō" meaning "to speak against."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 8, persecution scatters the believers, leading Philip to preach in Samaria where he performs miracles and converts many, including Simon the Sorcerer. When Peter and John join him, they impart the Holy Spirit to new believers. Meanwhile, an angel directs Philip to meet an Ethiopian eunuch on the road to Gaza. Philip explains Isaiah's prophecy and baptizes the eunuch, who rejoices and continues his journey. Philip is then led by the Spirit to continue preaching in various towns until he reaches Caesarea.

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### Opening Question

How can difficult circumstances or persecution sometimes lead to unexpected opportunities for growth and spreading the gospel?

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### Outline

#### 1. Persecution and the Scattering of Believers (Acts 8:1-4)

- Saul's role in persecuting the church
- Believers scatter, preaching the word wherever they go

Application Question: How can we stay strong in our faith during times of hardship?

#### 2. Philip in Samaria (Acts 8:5-25)

- Philip preaches and performs miracles in Samaria
- Conversion of Simon the Sorcerer
- Peter and John join Philip, imparting the Holy Spirit



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: What role does the Holy Spirit play in empowering believers for ministry?

3. Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:26-40)
  - An angel directs Philip to meet the Ethiopian eunuch
  - Philip explains Isaiah's prophecy and baptizes the eunuch
  - Philip continues preaching until he reaches Caesarea

Application Question: How can we be open to God's leading in our daily lives?

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## Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge
    - Memorize Acts 8:35: "Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus."
  2. Role Playing Activity
    - Students reenact Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian eunuch, focusing on sharing the gospel and the baptism.
  3. Discussion Activity
    - Discuss the impact of persecution on the early church and how adversity can strengthen faith and spread the gospel.
- 

## Quiz

1. Who was responsible for persecuting the church in Acts 8?
  - Peter
  - Paul
  - Saul

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- John
- 2. Where did Philip preach and perform miracles?
  - Jerusalem
  - Judea
  - Samaria
  - Galilee
- 3. Who was converted in Samaria by Philip's preaching?
  - A Pharisee
  - Simon the Sorcerer
  - A Roman centurion
  - A Sadducee
- 4. Which apostles joined Philip in Samaria?
  - Peter and John
  - James and John
  - Peter and James
  - Andrew and Philip
- 5. What did Peter and John impart to the new believers in Samaria?
  - Baptism
  - Holy Spirit
  - Healing
  - Teaching
- 6. Who directed Philip to the Ethiopian eunuch?
  - An angel
  - A prophet
  - A dream
  - A vision
- 7. What was the Ethiopian eunuch reading when Philip met him?
  - Psalms
  - Proverbs
  - Isaiah

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Jeremiah
- 8. What did Philip do for the Ethiopian eunuch?
  - Healed him
  - Baptized him
  - Gave him food
  - Taught him to read
- 9. How did the Ethiopian eunuch react after being baptized?
  - Rejoiced
  - Cried
  - Was silent
  - Prayed
- 10. Where did Philip go after baptizing the eunuch?
  - Back to Jerusalem
  - To Judea
  - To Caesarea
  - To Galilee

Answers: 1. Saul, 2. Samaria, 3. Simon the Sorcerer, 4. Peter and John, 5. Holy Spirit, 6. An angel, 7. Isaiah, 8. Baptized him, 9. Rejoiced, 10. To Caesarea

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Fill in the Blank

1. Saul was responsible for \_\_\_\_\_ the church.
2. Philip preached and performed miracles in \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Simon the \_\_\_\_\_ was converted by Philip's preaching.
4. Peter and John imparted the \_\_\_\_\_ to the new believers in Samaria.
5. An \_\_\_\_\_ directed Philip to the Ethiopian eunuch.
6. The Ethiopian eunuch was reading the book of \_\_\_\_\_.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

7. Philip \_\_\_\_\_ the Ethiopian eunuch after explaining the Scripture.
8. The Ethiopian eunuch \_\_\_\_\_ after being baptized.
9. Philip continued preaching until he reached \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: persecuting, Samaria, Sorcerer, Holy Spirit, angel, Isaiah, baptized, rejoiced, Caesarea

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Persecution - Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of religious beliefs, from the Greek word "diogmos" meaning "pursuit."
2. Sorcerer - A person who claims or is believed to have magic powers, from the Greek word "mageia" meaning "magic."
3. Holy Spirit - The third person of the Trinity, from the Greek word "pneuma" meaning "spirit" or "breath."
4. Eunuch - A man who has been castrated, often employed in a royal court, from the Greek word "eunouchos" meaning "keeper of the bed."
5. Baptize - To immerse in water as a religious rite of purification, from the Greek word "baptizo" meaning "to immerse."
6. Scripture - The sacred writings of Christianity contained in the Bible, from the Greek word "graphe" meaning "writing."
7. Rejoice - To feel or show great joy, from the Greek word "chairo" meaning "to be glad."
8. Caesarea - A major Roman city located on the coast of Israel, from the Greek word "Kaisareia" meaning "of Caesar."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER NINE

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 9, Saul, a fervent persecutor of Christians, encounters Jesus on the road to Damascus. Blinded by the experience, he is led into the city where Ananias, a disciple, heals him and baptizes him. Saul, now called Paul, begins preaching about Jesus, astounding those who knew him as a persecutor. Meanwhile, Peter performs miracles, healing Aeneas and raising Tabitha from the dead, leading many to believe in Jesus. This chapter marks a significant turning point with Saul's dramatic conversion and the continued spread of the gospel.

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### Opening Question

How would you react if someone who once opposed you suddenly became a strong supporter of your cause?

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### Outline

1. Saul's Encounter with Jesus (Acts 9:1-9)
  - Saul's mission to persecute Christians
  - Blinded by a vision of Jesus on the road to Damascus
  - Led into Damascus, unable to see for three days

Application Question: How can transformative experiences change our perspectives and actions?

2. Ananias and Saul's Conversion (Acts 9:10-19)
  - Ananias' vision and reluctant obedience
  - Ananias heals Saul and baptizes him

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Saul regains his sight and is filled with the Holy Spirit

Application Question: What can we learn about obedience and trust from Ananias' actions?

## 3. Saul Preaches in Damascus and Jerusalem (Acts 9:20-31)

- Saul begins preaching about Jesus
- Reactions of astonishment and disbelief from the people
- Saul's life threatened; escapes to Jerusalem
- The church's growth and peace

Application Question: How can we support new believers in their faith journey?

## 4. Peter's Miracles in Lydda and Joppa (Acts 9:32-43)

- Healing of Aeneas in Lydda
- Raising Tabitha (Dorcas) from the dead in Joppa
- Many believe in Jesus because of these miracles

Application Question: How can we demonstrate the power of faith through our actions?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 9:15: "But the Lord said to Ananias, 'Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel.'"

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact Saul's conversion and Ananias' healing of Saul, focusing on the themes of transformation and obedience.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss how significant life changes can lead to new opportunities for growth and service in faith.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

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## Quiz

1. What was Saul's mission before his conversion?
  - To preach the gospel
  - To persecute Christians
  - To collect taxes
  - To heal the sick
2. Who appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus?
  - An angel
  - Peter
  - Jesus
  - Ananias
3. How long was Saul blind after his encounter with Jesus?
  - One day
  - Three days
  - One week
  - One month
4. Who healed Saul of his blindness?
  - Peter
  - John
  - Ananias
  - Barnabas
5. What did Saul begin doing immediately after his conversion?
  - Preaching about Jesus
  - Persecuting more Christians
  - Traveling to Rome
  - Writing letters
6. How did the people react to Saul's preaching?

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- They ignored him
  - They were astonished and disbelieving
  - They praised him
  - They imprisoned him
7. Who performed miracles in Lydda and Joppa?
- Saul
  - Peter
  - John
  - Philip
8. What miracle did Peter perform in Lydda?
- Healing a blind man
  - Raising the dead
  - Healing Aeneas, who was paralyzed
  - Turning water into wine
9. Who did Peter raise from the dead in Joppa?
- Aeneas
  - Tabitha (Dorcas)
  - Ananias
  - Lydia
10. What was the result of Peter's miracles in Lydda and Joppa?
- Many believed in Jesus
  - People fled the towns
  - The miracles were ignored
  - The authorities arrested Peter

Answers: 1. To persecute Christians, 2. Jesus, 3. Three days, 4. Ananias, 5. Preaching about Jesus, 6. They were astonished and disbelieving, 7. Peter, 8. Healing Aeneas, who was paralyzed, 9. Tabitha (Dorcas), 10. Many believed in Jesus



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Fill in the Blank

1. Saul encountered \_\_\_\_\_ on the road to Damascus.
2. Saul was \_\_\_\_\_ after his vision of Jesus.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ healed Saul and baptized him.
4. Saul began \_\_\_\_\_ about Jesus after his conversion.
5. The people were \_\_\_\_\_ by Saul's preaching.
6. Peter healed \_\_\_\_\_ in Lydda.
7. Peter raised \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead in Joppa.
8. Many people \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus because of the miracles.

Answers: Jesus, blinded, Ananias, preaching, astonished, Aeneas, Tabitha (Dorcas), believed

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Persecution - Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of religious beliefs, from the Greek word "diogmos" meaning "pursuit."
2. Conversion - The process of changing or causing something to change from one form to another, from the Greek word "epistrophē" meaning "turning around."
3. Vision - An experience of seeing something in a dream or trance, from the Greek word "horama" meaning "sight."
4. Baptize - To immerse in water as a religious rite of purification, from the Greek word "baptizo" meaning "to immerse."
5. Preach - To publicly proclaim or teach a religious message, from the Greek word "kerusso" meaning "to herald."
6. Miracle - An extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs, from the Greek word "thauma" meaning "wonder."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

7. Apostle - A messenger and ambassador, from the Greek word "apostolos" meaning "one who is sent away."
8. Faith - Complete trust or confidence in someone or something, from the Greek word "pistis" meaning "faithfulness" or "belief."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 10, Cornelius, a centurion in Caesarea, receives a vision from an angel instructing him to send for Peter. Meanwhile, Peter has a vision of a sheet with various animals, teaching him that God does not show favoritism. When Peter meets Cornelius, he realizes the vision's meaning: the gospel is for all people, Jew and Gentile alike. Peter preaches to Cornelius' household, and the Holy Spirit comes upon them, leading to their baptism. This chapter marks a pivotal moment in the early church, highlighting the inclusion of Gentiles in God's plan.

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### Opening Question

How do you think it would feel to learn that something you believed for a long time was incomplete or needed to be expanded?

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### Outline

#### 1. Cornelius' Vision (Acts 10:1-8)

- Cornelius, a centurion in Caesarea, receives a vision from an angel
- Instructed to send for Peter in Joppa

Application Question: How can we be open to new directions or instructions from God in our lives?

#### 2. Peter's Vision (Acts 10:9-16)

- Peter's vision of a sheet with various animals
- Voice tells Peter to kill and eat; Peter objects
- Vision's message: What God has made clean, do not call impure

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: How can we overcome long-held prejudices or misconceptions?

## 3. Peter and Cornelius Meet (Acts 10:17-33)

- Peter arrives at Cornelius' house
- Peter realizes the meaning of his vision: the gospel is for all people

Application Question: How can we share the message of Jesus with those who are different from us?

## 4. The Holy Spirit Comes on the Gentiles (Acts 10:34-48)

- Peter preaches to Cornelius' household
- The Holy Spirit comes upon the Gentiles
- Cornelius and his household are baptized

Application Question: How can we recognize and celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit in others?

---

### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 10:34-35: "Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.'"

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the meeting between Peter and Cornelius, emphasizing the breaking down of barriers and the inclusion of all people in the gospel.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of Peter's vision and how it changed the early church's understanding of God's plan for humanity.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Quiz

1. Who was Cornelius?
  - A Roman emperor
  - A centurion in Caesarea
  - A Jewish priest
  - A fisherman in Galilee
2. What did the angel instruct Cornelius to do?
  - Go to Jerusalem
  - Send for Peter in Joppa
  - Offer a sacrifice
  - Build a temple
3. What vision did Peter have?
  - A burning bush
  - A sheet with various animals
  - A ladder reaching to heaven
  - A bright light
4. What was the message of Peter's vision?
  - What God has made clean, do not call impure
  - Prepare for a journey
  - Build an altar
  - Go to Nineveh
5. Where did Peter go after his vision?
  - To Jerusalem
  - To Caesarea
  - To Antioch
  - To Rome
6. What did Peter realize when he met Cornelius?
  - That he should not eat unclean food

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- That the gospel is for all people
  - That he should return to Jerusalem
  - That he was wrong to come
7. What happened while Peter was speaking to Cornelius' household?
- They fell asleep
  - The Holy Spirit came upon them
  - They ran away
  - They rejected his message
8. What did Peter do after the Holy Spirit came upon Cornelius and his household?
- He left immediately
  - He baptized them
  - He rebuked them
  - He offered a sacrifice
9. What did the vision and events at Cornelius' house signify for the early church?
- That Gentiles were excluded
  - That only Jews could be saved
  - The inclusion of Gentiles in God's plan
  - That Peter should be the leader
10. What is a key lesson from Acts chapter 10?
- God shows favoritism
  - God's message is only for the Jews
  - God's message is for all people
  - Visions are not important

Answers: 1. A centurion in Caesarea, 2. Send for Peter in Joppa, 3. A sheet with various animals, 4. What God has made clean, do not call impure, 5. To Caesarea, 6. That the gospel is for all people, 7. The Holy Spirit came upon them, 8. He baptized them, 9. The inclusion of Gentiles in God's plan, 10. God's message is for all people

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Fill in the Blank

1. Cornelius was a \_\_\_\_\_ in Caesarea.
2. An angel instructed Cornelius to send for \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Peter had a vision of a sheet with various \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The message of Peter's vision was that what God has made \_\_\_\_\_ should not be called impure.
5. Peter traveled to \_\_\_\_\_ to meet Cornelius.
6. Peter realized that the gospel is for all \_\_\_\_\_.
7. While Peter was speaking, the \_\_\_\_\_ came upon Cornelius and his household.
8. Peter \_\_\_\_\_ Cornelius and his household after the Holy Spirit came upon them.

Answers: centurion, Peter, animals, clean, Caesarea, people, Holy Spirit, baptized

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Centurion - A Roman army officer commanding a century, originally from the Latin word "centurio" meaning "commander of a hundred."
2. Vision - An experience of seeing something in a dream or trance, from the Greek word "horama" meaning "sight."
3. Impure - Not clean or pure, from the Greek word "akathartos" meaning "unclean."
4. Gentile - A person who is not Jewish, from the Greek word "ethnos" meaning "nation" or "people."
5. Baptize - To immerse in water as a religious rite of purification, from the Greek word "baptizo" meaning "to immerse."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

6. Favoritism - The practice of giving unfair preferential treatment to one person or group, from the Greek word "prosōpolēmpsia" meaning "partiality."
7. Gospel - The teaching or revelation of Christ, from the Greek word "euangelion" meaning "good news."
8. Holy Spirit - The third person of the Trinity, from the Greek word "pneuma" meaning "spirit" or "breath."



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER ELEVEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 11, Peter explains his actions regarding the Gentile converts in Caesarea to the Jerusalem church. He recounts his vision and the subsequent visit to Cornelius' house, emphasizing that God has granted repentance and life to the Gentiles. The believers accept his explanation. Meanwhile, believers scattered by persecution preach in Antioch, where a great number of people turn to the Lord. Barnabas is sent to Antioch and later brings Saul to help. The disciples are first called Christians in Antioch, and the chapter concludes with a prophecy of famine and the church's response in sending aid.

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### Opening Question

How do you think you would react if you saw a significant change in the beliefs or practices of your community?

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### Outline

1. Peter's Explanation to the Jerusalem Church (Acts 11:1-18)
  - Peter recounts his vision and visit to Cornelius
  - Emphasis on God granting repentance to the Gentiles
  - The Jerusalem believers accept Peter's explanation

Application Question: How can we remain open to God's guidance, even when it challenges our existing beliefs?

2. The Spread of the Gospel in Antioch (Acts 11:19-21)
  - Believers scattered by persecution preach in Antioch

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- A great number of people turn to the Lord

Application Question: How can we share the message of Jesus in our own communities?

## 3. Barnabas and Saul in Antioch (Acts 11:22-26)

- Barnabas is sent to encourage the new believers
- Barnabas brings Saul to help teach in Antioch
- Disciples are first called Christians in Antioch

Application Question: How can we support and encourage new believers in their faith journey?

## 4. Prophecy of Famine and the Church's Response (Acts 11:27-30)

- Prophecy of famine by Agabus
- The church in Antioch sends aid to the believers in Judea

Application Question: How can we respond to the needs of others in times of crisis?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 11:18: "When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, 'So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.'"

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact Peter's explanation to the Jerusalem church and the reaction of the believers.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of the disciples being first called Christians in Antioch and what it means to be a Christian today.
-

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Quiz

1. Who explained his actions regarding the Gentile converts to the Jerusalem church?
  - Peter
  - Paul
  - Barnabas
  - John
2. What did Peter emphasize in his explanation?
  - The need for circumcision
  - God's granting of repentance to the Gentiles
  - The importance of the law
  - The role of the apostles
3. Where did believers preach the gospel after being scattered by persecution?
  - Jerusalem
  - Samaria
  - Antioch
  - Rome
4. Who was sent to Antioch to encourage the new believers?
  - Paul
  - Peter
  - Barnabas
  - John
5. Who did Barnabas bring to help teach in Antioch?
  - Peter
  - James
  - John
  - Saul
6. What were the disciples first called in Antioch?
  - Apostles
  - Saints

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Christians
  - Believers
7. Who prophesied a great famine?
- Peter
  - Agabus
  - Barnabas
  - Saul
8. How did the church in Antioch respond to the prophecy of famine?
- They ignored it
  - They sent aid to the believers in Judea
  - They fled the city
  - They fasted and prayed
9. What was the initial reaction of the Jerusalem believers to Peter's explanation?
- Anger
  - Confusion
  - Acceptance
  - Skepticism
10. Who was Cornelius?
- A fisherman
  - A Roman centurion
  - A tax collector
  - A merchant

Answers: 1. Peter, 2. God's granting of repentance to the Gentiles, 3. Antioch, 4. Barnabas, 5. Saul, 6. Christians, 7. Agabus, 8. They sent aid to the believers in Judea, 9. Acceptance, 10. A Roman centurion

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# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Fill in the Blank

1. Peter explained his actions regarding the \_\_\_\_\_ converts to the Jerusalem church.
2. Peter emphasized that God granted \_\_\_\_\_ to the Gentiles.
3. Believers scattered by persecution preached in \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Barnabas was sent to \_\_\_\_\_ the new believers.
5. Barnabas brought \_\_\_\_\_ to help teach in Antioch.
6. The disciples were first called \_\_\_\_\_ in Antioch.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ prophesied a great famine.
8. The church in Antioch sent \_\_\_\_\_ to the believers in Judea.

Answers: Gentile, repentance, Antioch, encourage, Saul, Christians, Agabus, aid

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Repentance - The action of repenting; sincere regret or remorse, from the Greek word "metanoia" meaning "a change of mind."
2. Gentile - A person who is not Jewish, from the Greek word "ethnos" meaning "nation" or "people."
3. Persecution - Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of religious beliefs, from the Greek word "diogmos" meaning "pursuit."
4. Encourage - Give support, confidence, or hope to someone, from the Greek word "parakaleo" meaning "to call to one's side."
5. Famine - Extreme scarcity of food, from the Greek word "limos" meaning "hunger."
6. Prophet - A person regarded as an inspired teacher or proclaimer of the will of God, from the Greek word "prophetes" meaning "one who speaks forth."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

7. Aid - Help, typically of a practical nature, from the Greek word "diakonia" meaning "service" or "ministry."
8. Christian - A follower of Christ, first used in Antioch, from the Greek word "christianos" meaning "follower of Christ."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TWELVE

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 12, King Herod Agrippa begins persecuting the church, killing James, the brother of John, and imprisoning Peter. The church prays fervently for Peter, and an angel miraculously frees him from prison. Peter visits the house of Mary, John Mark's mother, where many are praying. Herod, enraged by Peter's escape, executes the guards. Later, Herod is struck down by an angel of the Lord and dies because he did not give glory to God. The chapter concludes with the word of God continuing to spread and flourish.

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### Opening Question

How do you think the early Christians felt when Peter was miraculously freed from prison, and what does this teach us about the power of prayer?

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### Outline

#### 1. Herod's Persecution of the Church (Acts 12:1-5)

- Herod kills James, the brother of John
- Peter is imprisoned
- The church prays fervently for Peter

Application Question: How can we remain steadfast in prayer during times of persecution or trouble?

#### 2. Peter's Miraculous Escape (Acts 12:6-17)

- An angel frees Peter from prison
- Peter visits the house of Mary, where believers are praying

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Believers are astonished by Peter's escape

Application Question: How can we trust in God's deliverance even in seemingly impossible situations?

## 3. Herod's Reaction and Death (Acts 12:18-23)

- Herod executes the guards
- Herod is struck down by an angel and dies because he did not give glory to God

Application Question: What can we learn about the importance of humility and giving glory to God?

## 4. The Spread of the Word of God (Acts 12:24-25)

- The word of God continues to spread and flourish
- Barnabas and Saul return from Jerusalem with John Mark

Application Question: How can we contribute to the spread of the gospel in our own communities?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 12:5: "So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him."

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact Peter's escape from prison and his visit to Mary's house, highlighting the power of prayer and faith.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of Herod's downfall and how it demonstrates the consequences of pride and the importance of giving glory to God.
-



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Quiz

1. Who began persecuting the church in Acts 12?
  - Pilate
  - Herod Agrippa
  - Nero
  - Caesar
2. Who was killed by Herod Agrippa?
  - Peter
  - Paul
  - James, the brother of John
  - Stephen
3. Who was imprisoned by Herod Agrippa?
  - James
  - John
  - Peter
  - Barnabas
4. What did the church do while Peter was in prison?
  - Fled the city
  - Fought back
  - Prayed fervently
  - Hired a lawyer
5. Who freed Peter from prison?
  - A soldier
  - An angel
  - A disciple
  - Herod
6. Where did Peter go after being freed from prison?
  - The synagogue
  - Mary's house

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- The marketplace
  - The temple
7. How did Herod react to Peter's escape?
- He rejoiced
  - He repented
  - He executed the guards
  - He imprisoned more disciples
8. Why was Herod struck down by an angel and died?
- He lied
  - He persecuted Christians
  - He did not give glory to God
  - He stole from the temple
9. What continued to spread and flourish after Herod's death?
- Roman rule
  - The word of God
  - Persecution
  - Trade
10. Who returned from Jerusalem with John Mark at the end of Acts 12?
- Peter and John
  - Barnabas and Saul
  - James and Andrew
  - Philip and Thomas

Answers: 1. Herod Agrippa, 2. James, the brother of John, 3. Peter, 4. Prayed fervently, 5. An angel, 6. Mary's house, 7. He executed the guards, 8. He did not give glory to God, 9. The word of God, 10. Barnabas and Saul

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Fill in the Blank

1. Herod killed \_\_\_\_\_, the brother of John.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

2. Peter was kept in \_\_\_\_\_ by Herod.
3. The church was earnestly \_\_\_\_\_ to God for Peter.
4. An \_\_\_\_\_ freed Peter from prison.
5. Peter went to the house of \_\_\_\_\_ after his escape.
6. Herod executed the \_\_\_\_\_ who were guarding Peter.
7. Herod was struck down by an \_\_\_\_\_ because he did not give glory to God.
8. The \_\_\_\_\_ of God continued to spread and flourish.

Answers: James, prison, praying, angel, Mary, guards, angel, word

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Persecution - Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of religious beliefs, from the Greek word "diogmos" meaning "pursuit."
2. Miraculous - Occurring through divine or supernatural intervention, from the Greek word "thaumastos" meaning "wonderful."
3. Fervently - With great intensity of spirit, feeling, or enthusiasm, from the Greek word "ektenos" meaning "earnestly."
4. Angel - A messenger of God, from the Greek word "angelos" meaning "messenger."
5. Humility - A modest or low view of one's own importance, from the Greek word "tapeinos" meaning "lowly."
6. Glory - High renown or honor won by notable achievements, from the Greek word "doxa" meaning "glory."
7. Deliverance - The action of being rescued or set free, from the Greek word "rhyomai" meaning "to rescue."
8. Flourish - To grow or develop in a healthy or vigorous way, from the Greek word "anathallo" meaning "to bloom."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 13, the Holy Spirit sets apart Barnabas and Saul for missionary work. They travel to Cyprus, where they encounter and blind a sorcerer named Elymas. Saul, now called Paul, and Barnabas then journey to Pisidian Antioch. Paul delivers a powerful sermon in the synagogue, recounting Israel's history and proclaiming Jesus as the promised Savior. Many Gentiles believe, but some Jews oppose them. Paul and Barnabas declare that they will turn to the Gentiles, fulfilling God's plan. Despite persecution, the disciples are filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

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### Opening Question

How would you feel if you were chosen for a special mission by your community or church, and what challenges might you expect to face?

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### Outline

#### 1. The Calling of Barnabas and Saul (Acts 13:1-3)

- The Holy Spirit sets apart Barnabas and Saul
- Fasting, praying, and laying on of hands

Application Question: How can we discern and respond to God's calling in our lives?

#### 2. Missionary Work in Cyprus (Acts 13:4-12)

- Preaching in Salamis and Paphos
- Encounter with Elymas the sorcerer
- Elymas blinded; the proconsul believes

Application Question: How can we stand firm in our faith when facing opposition?

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## 3. Paul's Sermon in Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:13-41)

- Paul recounts Israel's history
- Proclaims Jesus as the promised Savior
- Encourages belief and warns against disbelief

Application Question: What can we learn from Paul's approach to sharing the gospel?

## 4. Response to the Gospel (Acts 13:42-52)

- Many Gentiles believe
- Some Jews oppose Paul and Barnabas
- Paul and Barnabas turn to the Gentiles
- Disciples filled with joy and the Holy Spirit despite persecution

Application Question: How should we respond to both acceptance and rejection when sharing our faith?

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## Possible Activities

### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 13:47: "For this is what the Lord has commanded us: 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact Paul's sermon in Pisidian Antioch and the varied responses from the audience.

### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of the Holy Spirit's guidance in missionary work and how we can be attentive to it today.
-

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Quiz

1. Who set apart Barnabas and Saul for their missionary work?
  - The apostles
  - The Holy Spirit
  - The church in Jerusalem
  - The proconsul
2. Where did Barnabas and Saul first travel on their mission?
  - Cyprus
  - Rome
  - Jerusalem
  - Antioch
3. Who was the sorcerer they encountered in Paphos?
  - Simon
  - Elymas
  - Bar-Jesus
  - Ananias
4. What happened to Elymas when he opposed Barnabas and Saul?
  - He was converted
  - He fled
  - He was blinded
  - He was imprisoned
5. Where did Paul deliver a sermon recounting Israel's history?
  - Jerusalem
  - Antioch
  - Pisidian Antioch
  - Lystra
6. Who believed after witnessing Elymas's blinding?
  - The high priest
  - The proconsul

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- The Pharisees
  - The Sadducees
7. What was Paul's new name after his encounter in Cyprus?
- Barnabas
  - Peter
  - Saul
  - Paul
8. How did some Jews react to Paul's sermon in Pisidian Antioch?
- They believed
  - They were indifferent
  - They opposed him
  - They fled
9. To whom did Paul and Barnabas turn after facing opposition from some Jews?
- The Romans
  - The Gentiles
  - The Pharisees
  - The Sadducees
10. How were the disciples described at the end of the chapter despite persecution?
- Discouraged
  - Confused
  - Filled with joy and the Holy Spirit
  - Fearful

Answers: 1. The Holy Spirit, 2. Cyprus, 3. Elymas, 4. He was blinded, 5. Pisidian Antioch, 6. The proconsul, 7. Paul, 8. They opposed him, 9. The Gentiles, 10. Filled with joy and the Holy Spirit

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# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Fill in the Blank

1. The Holy Spirit set apart \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for their missionary work.
2. Barnabas and Saul traveled to \_\_\_\_\_ for their first mission.
3. They encountered a sorcerer named \_\_\_\_\_ in Paphos.
4. Elymas was \_\_\_\_\_ when he opposed Barnabas and Saul.
5. Paul delivered a sermon in \_\_\_\_\_ Antioch.
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ believed after witnessing Elymas's blinding.
7. Saul's new name was \_\_\_\_\_ after his encounter in Cyprus.
8. Paul and Barnabas turned to the \_\_\_\_\_ after facing opposition.
9. The disciples were filled with \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ despite persecution.

Answers: Barnabas, Saul, Cyprus, Elymas, blinded, Pisidian, proconsul, Paul, Gentiles, joy, Holy Spirit

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Missionary - A person sent on a religious mission, from the Greek word "apostolos" meaning "one who is sent away."
2. Proconsul - A governor of a province in ancient Rome, from the Latin word "proconsul" meaning "deputy consul."
3. Sorcerer - A person who claims or is believed to have magic powers, from the Greek word "mageia" meaning "magic."
4. Opposition - Resistance or dissent, expressed in action or argument, from the Greek word "antithesis" meaning "opposition."



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

5. Gentile - A person who is not Jewish, from the Greek word "ethnos" meaning "nation" or "people."
6. Blinded - Deprived of sight, from the Greek word "typhlos" meaning "blind."
7. Synagogue - A Jewish house of worship, from the Greek word "synagōgē" meaning "assembly."
8. Persecution - Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of religious beliefs, from the Greek word "diogmos" meaning "pursuit."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER FOURTEEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 14, Paul and Barnabas continue their missionary journey, preaching in Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. In Iconium, they face opposition but many believe. In Lystra, Paul heals a lame man, leading the crowd to mistake them for gods. Paul and Barnabas barely prevent the people from offering sacrifices to them. Jews from Antioch and Iconium incite the crowd to stone Paul, but he survives and continues preaching. After making many disciples, they return to Antioch, strengthening the churches and appointing elders, recounting how God opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.

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### Opening Question

How do you think you would respond if people misunderstood your actions and intentions in a significant way?

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### Outline

#### 1. Preaching in Iconium (Acts 14:1-7)

- Paul and Barnabas preach in the synagogue
- Many Jews and Gentiles believe
- Opposition and plot to mistreat and stone them

Application Question: How should we respond when facing opposition in sharing our faith?

#### 2. Healing in Lystra (Acts 14:8-18)

- Paul heals a lame man

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- The crowd mistakes Paul and Barnabas for gods
- Paul and Barnabas correct the misunderstanding and preach the gospel

Application Question: How can we ensure that our actions point others to God and not to ourselves?

## 3. Paul Stoned and Left for Dead (Acts 14:19-20)

- Jews from Antioch and Iconium incite the crowd against Paul
- Paul is stoned and left for dead, but he survives and continues his mission

Application Question: What can we learn from Paul's perseverance and faith in the face of extreme adversity?

## 4. Strengthening the Disciples and Appointing Elders (Acts 14:21-28)

- Paul and Barnabas make many disciples in Derbe
- They return to strengthen and encourage the churches
- Elders are appointed in each church
- Paul and Barnabas return to Antioch and report how God opened the door of faith to the Gentiles

Application Question: How can we support and strengthen new believers in their faith journey?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 14:22: "Strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. 'We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,' they said."

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the healing of the lame man in Lystra and the subsequent events, focusing on the reactions of the crowd and Paul and Barnabas's response.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss how Paul and Barnabas's journey can inspire us to remain faithful and courageous in sharing the gospel despite challenges.
- 

## Quiz

1. Where did Paul and Barnabas first preach in Acts 14?
  - Lystra
  - Iconium
  - Derbe
  - Antioch
2. What did Paul and Barnabas face in Iconium?
  - Acceptance
  - Opposition and a plot to stone them
  - Indifference
  - Support from all
3. What miracle did Paul perform in Lystra?
  - Healing a blind man
  - Feeding thousands
  - Healing a lame man
  - Turning water into wine
4. How did the crowd in Lystra react to the miracle?
  - They ignored it
  - They praised God
  - They mistook Paul and Barnabas for gods
  - They asked for more miracles
5. What did Paul and Barnabas do when the crowd tried to offer sacrifices to them?
  - Accepted the sacrifices

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Fled the city
  - Corrected the misunderstanding and preached the gospel
  - Remained silent
6. Who incited the crowd against Paul in Lystra?
- The Roman soldiers
  - The Pharisees
  - Jews from Antioch and Iconium
  - Local merchants
7. What happened to Paul in Lystra?
- He was welcomed
  - He was stoned and left for dead
  - He was imprisoned
  - He was ignored
8. What did Paul and Barnabas do after making disciples in Derbe?
- They fled to another city
  - They returned to strengthen and encourage the churches
  - They stayed in Derbe
  - They wrote letters to the churches
9. What did Paul and Barnabas do for the churches they established?
- Left them on their own
  - Appointed elders in each church
  - Collected offerings
  - Built new buildings
10. What was the key message of Paul and Barnabas's report to Antioch?
- The opposition they faced
  - The miracles they performed
  - How God opened the door of faith to the Gentiles
  - The number of converts

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Answers: 1. Iconium, 2. Opposition and a plot to stone them, 3. Healing a lame man, 4. They mistook Paul and Barnabas for gods, 5. Corrected the misunderstanding and preached the gospel, 6. Jews from Antioch and Iconium, 7. He was stoned and left for dead, 8. They returned to strengthen and encourage the churches, 9. Appointed elders in each church, 10. How God opened the door of faith to the Gentiles

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Paul and Barnabas preached in the synagogue in \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In Lystra, Paul healed a \_\_\_\_\_ man.
3. The crowd in Lystra mistook Paul and Barnabas for \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Jews from Antioch and Iconium incited the crowd to \_\_\_\_\_ Paul.
5. Paul was stoned and left for \_\_\_\_\_ but survived.
6. Paul and Barnabas made many disciples in \_\_\_\_\_.
7. They returned to strengthen and encourage the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Paul and Barnabas appointed \_\_\_\_\_ in each church.

Answers: Iconium, lame, gods, stone, dead, Derbe, churches, elders

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Synagogue - A Jewish house of worship, from the Greek word "synagōgē" meaning "assembly."
2. Opposition - Resistance or dissent, expressed in action or argument, from the Greek word "antithesis" meaning "opposition."
3. Lame - Unable to walk without difficulty as the result of an injury or illness affecting the leg or foot, from the Greek word "chōlos" meaning "crippled."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

4. Sacrifices - An act of offering something precious to a deity, from the Greek word "thysia" meaning "sacrifice."
5. Perseverance - Continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, from the Greek word "hypomonē" meaning "steadfastness."
6. Disciple - A follower or student of a teacher, from the Greek word "mathētēs" meaning "learner."
7. Encourage - Give support, confidence, or hope to someone, from the Greek word "parakaleo" meaning "to call to one's side."
8. Elder - A person who is older and often a leader in a church, from the Greek word "presbyteros" meaning "elder" or "priest."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER FIFTEEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 15, a significant debate arises in the early church regarding whether Gentile converts must follow Jewish customs, particularly circumcision. Paul and Barnabas go to Jerusalem to discuss the issue with the apostles and elders. Peter argues that salvation is through grace, not law. James proposes a compromise: Gentiles should abstain from certain practices but need not be circumcised. The council agrees, and a letter is sent to the Gentile believers. Paul and Barnabas part ways over a disagreement about John Mark, with Paul choosing Silas as his new companion.

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### Opening Question

How do you think early Christians handled disagreements about important issues, and what can we learn from their approach?

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### Outline

#### 1. The Dispute Over Circumcision (Acts 15:1-5)

- Debate arises about Gentile converts following Jewish customs
- Paul and Barnabas sent to Jerusalem to discuss with apostles and elders

Application Question: How should we approach disagreements about faith practices in our own communities?

#### 2. Peter's Argument for Grace (Acts 15:6-11)

- Peter recounts how God gave the Holy Spirit to Gentiles
- Emphasizes that salvation is through grace, not law



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: What does it mean to be saved by grace, and how should this impact our view of others?

3. James' Proposal and the Council's Decision (Acts 15:12-21)
  - James proposes that Gentiles abstain from certain practices but need not be circumcised
  - The council agrees and sends a letter to Gentile believers

Application Question: How can we find compromises that respect different perspectives within our faith community?

4. The Letter to the Gentile Believers (Acts 15:22-29)
  - A letter is sent with the council's decision
  - Gentile believers receive the letter with joy

Application Question: How can clear communication help resolve conflicts and build unity?

5. Paul and Barnabas Part Ways (Acts 15:30-41)
  - Disagreement over John Mark leads to Paul and Barnabas parting ways
  - Paul chooses Silas as his new companion

Application Question: How can we handle conflicts with others while maintaining respect and love?

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## Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge
  - Memorize Acts 15:11: "We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are."
2. Role Playing Activity
  - Students reenact the Jerusalem Council, focusing on the arguments presented and the decision-making process.
3. Discussion Activity

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Discuss how the early church's approach to resolving conflicts can inform how we handle disagreements in our own lives.
- 

## Quiz

1. What issue caused a significant debate in the early church in Acts 15?
  - Baptism
  - Circumcision
  - Dietary laws
  - Sabbath observance
2. Who were sent to Jerusalem to discuss the issue with the apostles and elders?
  - Peter and John
  - Paul and Barnabas
  - James and Andrew
  - Philip and Stephen
3. What did Peter emphasize in his argument?
  - The importance of the law
  - The necessity of circumcision
  - Salvation through grace
  - Observing Jewish customs
4. Who proposed the compromise regarding Gentile converts?
  - Peter
  - Paul
  - James
  - John
5. What were Gentile believers asked to abstain from?
  - Circumcision
  - Certain foods and practices

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Jewish festivals
- Sabbath observance
- 6. How did the Gentile believers receive the letter from the council?
  - With confusion
  - With anger
  - With joy
  - With indifference
- 7. Why did Paul and Barnabas part ways?
  - Disagreement about John Mark
  - Different theological views
  - Dispute over leadership
  - Conflict with the apostles
- 8. Who did Paul choose as his new companion after parting ways with Barnabas?
  - Silas
  - Peter
  - Timothy
  - Luke
- 9. Where was the council held to discuss the issue of Gentile converts?
  - Antioch
  - Jerusalem
  - Rome
  - Ephesus
- 10. What was the outcome of the Jerusalem Council?
  - Gentiles must follow all Jewish laws
  - Gentiles need not be circumcised but should abstain from certain practices
  - Gentiles were excluded from the church
  - No decision was made

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Answers: 1. Circumcision, 2. Paul and Barnabas, 3. Salvation through grace, 4. James, 5. Certain foods and practices, 6. With joy, 7. Disagreement about John Mark, 8. Silas, 9. Jerusalem, 10. Gentiles need not be circumcised but should abstain from certain practices

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## Fill in the Blank

1. A significant debate arose about Gentile converts following \_\_\_\_\_ customs.
2. Paul and Barnabas were sent to \_\_\_\_\_ to discuss the issue with the apostles and elders.
3. Peter argued that salvation is through \_\_\_\_\_, not law.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ proposed that Gentiles abstain from certain practices but need not be circumcised.
5. The council's decision was sent in a \_\_\_\_\_ to the Gentile believers.
6. The Gentile believers received the letter with \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Paul and Barnabas parted ways over a disagreement about \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Paul chose \_\_\_\_\_ as his new companion.

Answers: Jewish, Jerusalem, grace, James, letter, joy, John Mark, Silas

---

## Vocabulary Words

1. Circumcision - The act of removing the foreskin, a practice required by Jewish law, from the Greek word "peritome" meaning "cutting around."
2. Grace - Unmerited divine assistance given to humans, from the Greek word "charis" meaning "favor."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

3. Apostle - A messenger and ambassador, from the Greek word "apostolos" meaning "one who is sent away."
4. Council - A formal meeting for discussion, from the Greek word "synedrion" meaning "assembly."
5. Abstain - To restrain oneself from doing or enjoying something, from the Greek word "apechomai" meaning "to hold back."
6. Companion - A person who accompanies or associates with another, from the Greek word "hetairos" meaning "comrade."
7. Disagreement - A difference of opinion, from the Greek word "diaphora" meaning "difference."
8. Elders - Leaders in the early Christian church, from the Greek word "presbyteros" meaning "elder."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER SIXTEEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 16, Paul begins his second missionary journey with Silas. They meet Timothy in Lystra, who joins their mission. Paul receives a vision of a man from Macedonia, leading them to preach there. In Philippi, they encounter Lydia, a wealthy merchant who converts to Christianity. Paul and Silas are imprisoned after casting a spirit out of a slave girl, but an earthquake frees them. They prevent the jailer from committing suicide, leading to his conversion. The chapter concludes with Paul and Silas being released and encouraging the believers before departing.

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### Opening Question

How do you think you would react if you were imprisoned for doing something good, and what can we learn from Paul's and Silas's response?

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### Outline

#### 1. Timothy Joins Paul and Silas (Acts 16:1-5)

- Paul meets Timothy in Lystra and recruits him
- Timothy is circumcised to respect Jewish customs
- The churches are strengthened and grow daily

Application Question: How can we make decisions that respect others' beliefs while staying true to our own?

#### 2. The Vision of the Macedonian Man (Acts 16:6-10)

- Paul receives a vision calling them to Macedonia
- They set sail immediately, believing God has called them

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: How can we be attentive and responsive to God's guidance in our lives?

## 3. Conversion of Lydia (Acts 16:11-15)

- Paul and Silas meet Lydia in Philippi
- Lydia and her household are baptized

Application Question: How can we use our resources and influence to support the work of the gospel?

## 4. Imprisonment and Conversion of the Jailer (Acts 16:16-34)

- Paul and Silas cast a spirit out of a slave girl
- They are imprisoned but remain faithful, praying and singing hymns
- An earthquake frees them, and the jailer converts after being prevented from committing suicide

Application Question: How can we maintain faith and trust in God during difficult circumstances?

## 5. Release and Departure (Acts 16:35-40)

- Paul and Silas are released from prison
- They encourage the believers before departing

Application Question: How can we continue to support and encourage others even after overcoming personal trials?

---

## Possible Activities

### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 16:31: "They replied, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.'"

### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the story of Paul and Silas in prison, focusing on their faith and the conversion of the jailer.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss how Paul's vision and subsequent actions demonstrate responsiveness to God's calling, and how we can apply this in our own lives.
- 

## Quiz

### 1. Who joined Paul and Silas on their missionary journey in Lystra?

- Barnabas
- Timothy
- John Mark
- Luke

### 2. What vision did Paul have that guided their journey?

- A man from Macedonia calling for help
- An angel directing them to Rome
- Jesus telling them to go to Jerusalem
- A dream of a new church

### 3. Who was Lydia?

- A Roman soldier
- A wealthy merchant who sold purple cloth
- A Jewish priestess
- A slave girl

### 4. Why were Paul and Silas imprisoned in Philippi?

- For preaching the gospel
- For healing on the Sabbath
- For casting a spirit out of a slave girl
- For refusing to pay taxes

### 5. What happened while Paul and Silas were in prison?

- They escaped on their own



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- An earthquake freed them
  - The jailer released them out of pity
  - They were put on trial
6. What did Paul and Silas do while in prison?
- Plotted their escape
  - Prayed and sang hymns
  - Argued with the jailer
  - Fasted and remained silent
7. What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas after the earthquake?
- How to escape
  - What to do to be saved
  - If they were innocent
  - Why they were imprisoned
8. What did Paul and Silas tell the jailer to do to be saved?
- Be baptized
  - Give to the poor
  - Believe in the Lord Jesus
  - Confess his sins
9. How did the magistrates respond when they found out Paul and Silas were Roman citizens?
- They ignored it
  - They apologized and released them
  - They punished them more
  - They sent them to Rome
10. What did Paul and Silas do before leaving Philippi?
- Burned down the prison
  - Encouraged the believers
  - Took revenge on the magistrates
  - Stayed in hiding

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Answers: 1. Timothy, 2. A man from Macedonia calling for help, 3. A wealthy merchant who sold purple cloth, 4. For casting a spirit out of a slave girl, 5. An earthquake freed them, 6. Prayed and sang hymns, 7. What to do to be saved, 8. Believe in the Lord Jesus, 9. They apologized and released them, 10. Encouraged the believers

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Paul and Silas met \_\_\_\_\_ in Lystra, who joined their mission.
2. Paul had a vision of a man from \_\_\_\_\_ calling for help.
3. In Philippi, they converted \_\_\_\_\_, a merchant of purple cloth.
4. Paul and Silas were imprisoned for casting a spirit out of a \_\_\_\_\_ girl.
5. While in prison, Paul and Silas prayed and sang \_\_\_\_\_.
6. An \_\_\_\_\_ freed Paul and Silas from prison.
7. The jailer asked Paul and Silas what he must do to be \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Paul and Silas told the jailer to \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord Jesus.
9. The magistrates apologized when they found out Paul and Silas were \_\_\_\_\_ citizens.
10. Before leaving Philippi, Paul and Silas \_\_\_\_\_ the believers.

Answers: Timothy, Macedonia, Lydia, slave, hymns, earthquake, saved, believe, Roman, encouraged

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Missionary - A person sent on a religious mission, especially one sent to promote Christianity in a foreign country, from the Greek word "apostolos" meaning "one who is sent away."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

2. Vision - An experience of seeing something in a dream or trance, from the Greek word "horama" meaning "sight."
3. Merchant - A person involved in trade or commerce, from the Greek word "emporos" meaning "trader."
4. Hymns - Songs of praise or worship, from the Greek word "hymnos" meaning "a song of praise."
5. Earthquake - A sudden and violent shaking of the ground, from the Greek word "seismos" meaning "shake."
6. Jailer - A person in charge of a jail or of the prisoners in it, from the Greek word "desmophylax" meaning "keeper of prisoners."
7. Believe - Accept as true, from the Greek word "pisteuo" meaning "to have faith."
8. Citizen - A legally recognized subject or national of a state, from the Greek word "polites" meaning "a member of a city."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 17, Paul continues his missionary journey, preaching in Thessalonica, Berea, and Athens. In Thessalonica, he faces opposition from jealous Jews. In Berea, the people eagerly receive the message, and many believe. Paul then travels to Athens, where he is distressed by the city full of idols. He engages in discussions with philosophers and delivers a powerful sermon at the Areopagus, proclaiming the one true God and the resurrection of Jesus. Some mock him, but others believe, including Dionysius and Damaris.

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### Opening Question

How do you think Paul felt when he saw the idols in Athens, and how can we respond to things that distress us in our own communities?

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### Outline

#### 1. Preaching in Thessalonica (Acts 17:1-9)

- Paul preaches in the synagogue for three Sabbaths
- Some Jews and many Greeks believe
- Jealous Jews incite a mob and attack Jason's house

Application Question: How can we remain steadfast in our faith when facing opposition?

#### 2. Preaching in Berea (Acts 17:10-15)

- Paul and Silas are sent to Berea
- Bereans receive the message eagerly and examine the Scriptures
- Many believe, but troublemakers from Thessalonica stir up crowds

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: What can we learn from the Bereans' approach to receiving and examining the message of the gospel?

## 3. Paul in Athens (Acts 17:16-34)

- Paul is distressed by the idols in Athens
- He engages with philosophers and speaks at the Areopagus
- Paul proclaims the one true God and the resurrection of Jesus
- Mixed reactions: some mock, some believe, including Dionysius and Damaris

Application Question: How can we effectively share the message of Jesus with people of different beliefs and backgrounds?

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## Possible Activities

### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 17:24: "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands."

### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact Paul's sermon at the Areopagus, focusing on how he connects with his audience and presents the gospel.

### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the importance of understanding and engaging with different cultures and beliefs when sharing the message of Jesus.
- 

## Quiz

### 1. How many Sabbaths did Paul preach in the synagogue in Thessalonica?

- One

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Two
  - Three
  - Four
2. What was the reaction of some Jews in Thessalonica to Paul's preaching?
- They believed
  - They were indifferent
  - They incited a mob
  - They invited him to stay longer
3. Where did Paul and Silas go after Thessalonica?
- Athens
  - Berea
  - Corinth
  - Ephesus
4. How did the Bereans receive Paul's message?
- With skepticism
  - With eagerness and examination of the Scriptures
  - With hostility
  - With indifference
5. Who stirred up trouble in Berea after Paul's arrival?
- Local Bereans
  - Romans
  - Jews from Thessalonica
  - Greek philosophers
6. What distressed Paul when he arrived in Athens?
- The weather
  - The idols in the city
  - The language barrier
  - The lack of food
7. Where did Paul deliver his sermon in Athens?
- The synagogue

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- The marketplace
  - The Areopagus
  - The temple
8. What was the main message of Paul's sermon at the Areopagus?
- The importance of following Jewish law
  - The resurrection of Jesus and the one true God
  - The need to build temples
  - The power of the Roman Empire
9. How did the people of Athens react to Paul's message?
- All believed
  - All mocked him
  - Mixed reactions: some mocked, some believed
  - They ignored him
10. Who were two people that believed Paul's message in Athens?
- Peter and John
  - James and Andrew
  - Dionysius and Damaris
  - Priscilla and Aquila

Answers: 1. Three, 2. They incited a mob, 3. Berea, 4. With eagerness and examination of the Scriptures, 5. Jews from Thessalonica, 6. The idols in the city, 7. The Areopagus, 8. The resurrection of Jesus and the one true God, 9. Mixed reactions: some mocked, some believed, 10. Dionysius and Damaris

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Fill in the Blank

1. Paul preached in the synagogue in \_\_\_\_\_ for three Sabbaths.
2. Some Jews in Thessalonica incited a \_\_\_\_\_ against Paul and Silas.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ received Paul's message with eagerness and examined the Scriptures.
4. Paul was distressed by the \_\_\_\_\_ in Athens.
5. Paul delivered his sermon at the \_\_\_\_\_ in Athens.
6. Paul proclaimed the one true God and the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.
7. Some Athenians \_\_\_\_\_ Paul, but others believed.
8. Two people who believed Paul's message in Athens were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: Thessalonica, mob, Bereans, idols, Areopagus, resurrection, mocked, Dionysius, Damaris

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Synagogue - A Jewish house of worship, from the Greek word "synagōgē" meaning "assembly."
2. Idol - An image or representation of a god used as an object of worship, from the Greek word "eidolon" meaning "image."
3. Philosopher - A person engaged or learned in philosophy, from the Greek word "philosophos" meaning "lover of wisdom."
4. Resurrection - The act of rising from the dead, from the Greek word "anastasis" meaning "a raising up."
5. Areopagus - A prominent rock outcropping in Athens where the city council and court met, from the Greek word "Areios Pagos" meaning "Hill of Ares."
6. Mob - A large crowd of people, especially one that is disorderly and intent on causing trouble, from the Latin word "mobile vulgus" meaning "fickle crowd."
7. Distress - Extreme anxiety, sorrow, or pain, from the Latin word "distringere" meaning "to stretch apart."
8. Eager - Showing keen interest or intense desire, from the Old Norse word "ægr" meaning "sharp, pointed."



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## *CHAPTER EIGHTEEN*

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 18, Paul travels to Corinth where he meets Aquila and Priscilla. He stays with them and works as a tentmaker while preaching in the synagogue. Despite opposition, Paul continues to teach, and many Corinthians believe and are baptized. Paul receives encouragement from the Lord in a vision. Later, Paul is brought before Gallio, the proconsul, but Gallio dismisses the charges. Paul then travels to Ephesus with Aquila and Priscilla. They meet Apollos, an eloquent speaker, and teach him more accurately about Jesus. Paul continues his journey, strengthening the disciples.

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### Opening Question

How do you think Paul managed to stay committed to his mission despite facing constant opposition and challenges?

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### Outline

#### 1. Paul in Corinth (Acts 18:1-11)

- Meets Aquila and Priscilla, fellow tentmakers
- Preaches in the synagogue; faces opposition
- Many Corinthians believe and are baptized

Application Question: How can we support each other in our faith journeys, especially when facing opposition?

#### 2. Paul Before Gallio (Acts 18:12-17)

- Jews bring Paul before Gallio, the proconsul

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Gallio dismisses the charges, showing indifference to religious disputes

Application Question: How can we remain steadfast in our faith when facing legal or societal challenges?

## 3. Paul's Departure and Journey to Ephesus (Acts 18:18-21)

- Paul leaves Corinth with Aquila and Priscilla
- Brief stop in Ephesus where Paul reasons with the Jews

Application Question: How can we effectively share our faith when we have limited time with others?

## 4. Apollos in Ephesus and Achaia (Acts 18:24-28)

- Apollos, an eloquent speaker, arrives in Ephesus
- Aquila and Priscilla teach him more accurately about Jesus
- Apollos powerfully refutes the Jews in public debate

Application Question: How can we help others grow in their understanding and sharing of the gospel?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 18:9-10: "One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: 'Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city.'"

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the scene of Paul being brought before Gallio, focusing on the reactions of Paul, Gallio, and the accusers.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the importance of mentorship and guidance in faith, drawing from the example of Aquila and Priscilla teaching Apollos.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

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## Quiz

1. Where did Paul meet Aquila and Priscilla?
  - Ephesus
  - Corinth
  - Athens
  - Rome
2. What was Paul's occupation while in Corinth?
  - Carpenter
  - Fisherman
  - Tentmaker
  - Farmer
3. How did the Lord encourage Paul in a vision?
  - Promised him wealth
  - Told him to keep speaking and not be silent
  - Promised him a new home
  - Told him to flee Corinth
4. Who dismissed the charges against Paul?
  - Felix
  - Festus
  - Gallio
  - Agrippa
5. Where did Paul travel after leaving Corinth?
  - Antioch
  - Rome
  - Ephesus
  - Jerusalem
6. Who did Paul take with him to Ephesus?

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Timothy and Silas
  - Barnabas and John Mark
  - Aquila and Priscilla
  - Luke and Titus
7. Who was Apollos?
- A Roman soldier
  - A Jewish tentmaker
  - An eloquent speaker from Alexandria
  - A Pharisee
8. What did Aquila and Priscilla do for Apollos?
- Hired him as a tentmaker
  - Taught him more accurately about Jesus
  - Sent him to Corinth
  - Rebuked him for his teachings
9. Where did Apollos go after learning from Aquila and Priscilla?
- Corinth
  - Athens
  - Rome
  - Jerusalem
10. How did Apollos help the believers in Achaia?
- By providing financial support
  - By writing letters
  - By powerfully refuting the Jews in public debate
  - By performing miracles

Answers: 1. Corinth, 2. Tentmaker, 3. Told him to keep speaking and not be silent, 4. Gallio, 5. Ephesus, 6. Aquila and Priscilla, 7. An eloquent speaker from Alexandria, 8. Taught him more accurately about Jesus, 9. Corinth, 10. By powerfully refuting the Jews in public debate

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Fill in the Blank

1. Paul met \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in Corinth.
2. Paul worked as a \_\_\_\_\_ while preaching in Corinth.
3. The Lord encouraged Paul in a \_\_\_\_\_ to keep speaking.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ dismissed the charges against Paul.
5. Paul traveled to \_\_\_\_\_ after leaving Corinth.
6. Paul took \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with him to Ephesus.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ was an eloquent speaker who arrived in Ephesus.
8. Aquila and Priscilla taught Apollos more accurately about \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Apollos went to \_\_\_\_\_ after learning from Aquila and Priscilla.
10. Apollos helped the believers in Achaia by refuting the \_\_\_\_\_ in public debate.

Answers: Aquila, Priscilla, tentmaker, vision, Gallio, Ephesus, Aquila, Priscilla, Apollos, Jesus, Corinth, Jews

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Vision - An experience of seeing something in a dream or trance, from the Greek word "horama" meaning "sight."
2. Proconsul - A governor of a province in ancient Rome, from the Latin word "proconsul" meaning "deputy consul."
3. Tentmaker - A person who makes tents, from the Greek word "skenopoios" meaning "tentmaker."
4. Synagogue - A Jewish house of worship, from the Greek word "synagōgē" meaning "assembly."
5. Eloquent - Fluent or persuasive in speaking or writing, from the Latin word "eloquens" meaning "speaking out."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

6. Refute - To prove a statement or theory to be wrong, from the Latin word "refutare" meaning "to rebut."
7. Disciple - A follower or student of a teacher, from the Greek word "mathētēs" meaning "learner."
8. Baptize - To immerse in water as a religious rite of purification, from the Greek word "baptizo" meaning "to immerse."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER NINETEEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 19, Paul arrives in Ephesus and finds some disciples who had not received the Holy Spirit. After baptizing them in the name of Jesus, they receive the Holy Spirit. Paul preaches in the synagogue and the lecture hall of Tyrannus for two years, performing many miracles. Seven sons of Sceva fail to cast out a demon in Jesus' name, revealing their lack of true faith. The name of Jesus is magnified, and many convert, burning their sorcery scrolls. A silversmith named Demetrius incites a riot against Paul, fearing loss of business from idol-making. The town clerk eventually quells the riot.

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### Opening Question

How would you feel witnessing both the powerful miracles and the strong opposition that Paul encountered in Ephesus, and how might it impact your faith?

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### Outline

1. Paul in Ephesus and Baptism of Disciples (Acts 19:1-7)
  - Paul finds disciples in Ephesus lacking the Holy Spirit
  - Baptizes them in the name of Jesus; they receive the Holy Spirit

Application Question: How important is it to ensure we understand and receive the full message of the gospel?

2. Paul's Ministry in Ephesus (Acts 19:8-12)
  - Preaches in the synagogue and the hall of Tyrannus for two years
  - Performs many miracles and healings

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: How can we be persistent in sharing the gospel even when faced with resistance?

## 3. The Seven Sons of Sceva (Acts 19:13-17)

- Attempt to cast out a demon in Jesus' name but fail
- The demon-possessed man overpowers them, exposing their lack of true faith

Application Question: What does this incident teach us about the importance of genuine faith and relationship with Jesus?

## 4. Widespread Repentance and Burning of Scrolls (Acts 19:18-20)

- Many who practiced sorcery convert and burn their scrolls
- The name of Jesus is greatly honored

Application Question: What sacrifices might we need to make to fully commit to following Jesus?

## 5. The Riot in Ephesus (Acts 19:21-41)

- Demetrius, a silversmith, incites a riot fearing loss of business
- The mob gathers in the theater, shouting against Paul
- The town clerk calms the crowd and disperses them

Application Question: How should we respond when our faith or actions cause controversy or opposition?

---

## Possible Activities

### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 19:20: "In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power."

### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the encounter between the seven sons of Sceva and the demon-possessed man, highlighting the importance of genuine faith.

### 3. Discussion Activity



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Discuss the impact of Paul's ministry in Ephesus and the reasons behind the riot led by Demetrius.
- 

## Quiz

1. What did Paul find lacking in the disciples at Ephesus?
  - Knowledge of the law
  - The Holy Spirit
  - Proper baptism
  - Faith in Jesus
2. Where did Paul preach for two years in Ephesus?
  - The synagogue
  - The marketplace
  - The hall of Tyrannus
  - The temple
3. Who attempted to cast out a demon in Jesus' name but failed?
  - Paul
  - Timothy
  - The seven sons of Sceva
  - Silas
4. What happened to the seven sons of Sceva?
  - They were praised
  - They were overpowered by the demon-possessed man
  - They performed a miracle
  - They converted many
5. What did many new believers in Ephesus do with their sorcery scrolls?
  - Sold them
  - Hid them

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Burned them
- Gave them to Paul
- 6. Who incited a riot in Ephesus against Paul?
  - A Roman soldier
  - Demetrius, a silversmith
  - The town clerk
  - A group of Pharisees
- 7. What was Demetrius's main concern that led to the riot?
  - Loss of business from idol-making
  - Religious differences
  - Political power
  - Personal revenge
- 8. Where did the mob gather during the riot in Ephesus?
  - The synagogue
  - The theater
  - The marketplace
  - The city gate
- 9. Who calmed the riotous crowd in Ephesus?
  - Paul
  - Timothy
  - The town clerk
  - Demetrius
- 10. What was the result of Paul's ministry in Ephesus according to Acts 19:20?
  - Few believed
  - The word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power
  - Paul was imprisoned
  - The church was destroyed

Answers: 1. The Holy Spirit, 2. The hall of Tyrannus, 3. The seven sons of Sceva, 4. They were overpowered by the demon-possessed man, 5. Burned them, 6. Demetrius, a silversmith, 7. Loss

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

of business from idol-making, 8. The theater, 9. The town clerk, 10. The word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Paul found disciples in Ephesus who had not received the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Paul preached in the hall of \_\_\_\_\_ for two years.
3. The seven sons of \_\_\_\_\_ failed to cast out a demon in Jesus' name.
4. Many new believers in Ephesus burned their \_\_\_\_\_ scrolls.
5. Demetrius, a \_\_\_\_\_, incited a riot against Paul.
6. The mob gathered in the \_\_\_\_\_ during the riot in Ephesus.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ calmed the crowd and dispersed them.
8. The word of the Lord spread widely and grew in \_\_\_\_\_ in Ephesus.

Answers: Holy Spirit, Tyrannus, Sceva, sorcery, silversmith, theater, town clerk, power

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Disciples - Followers or students of a teacher, from the Greek word "mathētēs" meaning "learner."
2. Synagogue - A Jewish house of worship, from the Greek word "synagōgē" meaning "assembly."
3. Miracle - An extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention, from the Greek word "thauma" meaning "wonder."
4. Sorcery - The use of magic, from the Greek word "mageia" meaning "magic."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

5. Silversmith - A person who makes objects out of silver, from the Greek word "argyrokopos" meaning "silver-worker."
6. Riot - A violent disturbance of the peace, from the Greek word "stasis" meaning "rebellion."
7. Theater - A building or outdoor area for dramatic performances, from the Greek word "theatron" meaning "place for viewing."
8. Power - The ability to do something or act in a particular way, from the Greek word "dynamis" meaning "strength."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TWENTY

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 20, Paul travels through Macedonia and Greece, encouraging the believers. In Troas, he raises Eutychus from the dead after he falls from a window during Paul's long sermon. Paul then travels to Miletus, where he meets with the elders of the Ephesian church. He delivers an emotional farewell speech, warning them of future challenges and encouraging them to remain faithful. Paul emphasizes the importance of shepherding the church and reminds them of his own example of humility, hard work, and dedication. The chapter concludes with a tearful goodbye as Paul departs for Jerusalem.

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### Opening Question

How do you think you would feel if you were saying goodbye to someone who had been a significant spiritual mentor, knowing you might never see them again?

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### Outline

1. Travels through Macedonia and Greece (Acts 20:1-6)
  - Paul encourages the believers
  - Travels with companions through Macedonia and Greece

Application Question: How can we encourage and support fellow believers in their faith journey?

2. Eutychus Raised from the Dead in Troas (Acts 20:7-12)
  - Paul preaches in Troas
  - Eutychus falls from a window and is raised from the dead by Paul

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: How can we remain focused and engaged in our spiritual practices despite physical and mental fatigue?

## 3. Journey to Miletus (Acts 20:13-16)

- Paul travels to Miletus
- Sends for the elders of the Ephesian church to meet him

Application Question: How can we prioritize important relationships and meetings in our busy lives?

## 4. Paul's Farewell Speech to the Ephesian Elders (Acts 20:17-38)

- Paul's emotional farewell to the elders
- Warns of future challenges and encourages faithfulness
- Emphasizes shepherding the church and his example of humility and dedication

Application Question: How can we be vigilant and faithful in our responsibilities within the church and our communities?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 20:24: "However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace."

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the story of Eutychus, focusing on the importance of attentiveness and the miraculous power of God.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the key points of Paul's farewell speech and how they apply to our own lives and responsibilities within the church.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Quiz

1. Where did Paul travel after leaving Ephesus?
  - Jerusalem
  - Macedonia and Greece
  - Rome
  - Antioch
2. Who fell from a window during Paul's sermon in Troas?
  - Timothy
  - Silas
  - Eutychus
  - Barnabas
3. What happened to Eutychus after he fell?
  - He was carried home
  - He was raised from the dead by Paul
  - He was taken to a doctor
  - He remained unconscious
4. Where did Paul meet with the elders of the Ephesian church?
  - Ephesus
  - Troas
  - Miletus
  - Corinth
5. What did Paul warn the Ephesian elders about in his farewell speech?
  - Future challenges and false teachers
  - The coming of the end times
  - Political unrest
  - Financial difficulties
6. What did Paul emphasize in his farewell speech to the Ephesian elders?
  - Building a large church
  - Gaining political power

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Shepherding the church and his example of humility and dedication
  - Avoiding persecution
7. How did Paul describe his own life and mission in Acts 20:24?
- Full of achievements
  - Worth nothing except completing the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace
  - Always easy and without struggle
  - Focused on gaining wealth
8. What was the reaction of the Ephesian elders to Paul's farewell speech?
- Indifference
  - Anger
  - Tearful goodbye
  - Rejection
9. Where was Paul heading after saying goodbye to the Ephesian elders?
- Rome
  - Jerusalem
  - Corinth
  - Antioch
10. What did Paul remind the Ephesian elders of in his speech?
- His miracles and wonders
  - His teachings and example of humility, hard work, and dedication
  - His political connections
  - His plans for the future

Answers: 1. Macedonia and Greece, 2. Eutychus, 3. He was raised from the dead by Paul, 4. Miletus, 5. Future challenges and false teachers, 6. Shepherding the church and his example of humility and dedication, 7. Worth nothing except completing the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace, 8. Tearful goodbye, 9. Jerusalem, 10. His teachings and example of humility, hard work, and dedication



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Paul traveled through \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to encourage the believers.
2. In Troas, \_\_\_\_\_ fell from a window and was raised from the dead by Paul.
3. Paul traveled to \_\_\_\_\_ and sent for the elders of the Ephesian church.
4. Paul warned the Ephesian elders about future challenges and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Paul emphasized the importance of \_\_\_\_\_ the church and his example of humility and dedication.
6. Paul considered his life worth nothing except completing the task of testifying to the good news of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The Ephesian elders said a \_\_\_\_\_ goodbye to Paul.
8. After saying goodbye, Paul was heading to \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: Macedonia, Greece, Eutychus, Miletus, false teachers, shepherding, God's grace, tearful, Jerusalem

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Encouragement - The action of giving someone support, confidence, or hope, from the Greek word "paraklesis" meaning "comfort."
2. Synagogue - A Jewish house of worship, from the Greek word "synagōgē" meaning "assembly."
3. Resurrection - The act of rising from the dead, from the Greek word "anastasis" meaning "a raising up."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

4. Shepherd - To guide or direct in a particular direction, from the Greek word "poimēn" meaning "shepherd" or "pastor."
5. Humility - A modest or low view of one's own importance, from the Greek word "tapeinophrosynē" meaning "lowliness of mind."
6. Dedication - The quality of being committed to a task or purpose, from the Latin word "dedicatio" meaning "consecration."
7. False Teachers - Individuals who spread incorrect teachings, from the Greek word "pseudodidaskalos" meaning "false teacher."
8. Grace - Unmerited divine assistance given to humans, from the Greek word "charis" meaning "favor."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 21, Paul travels to Jerusalem despite warnings from disciples and prophets about the dangers he will face there. In Jerusalem, he meets with James and the elders, who advise him to take part in purification rites to dispel rumors about him. However, Paul is recognized in the temple by Jews from Asia, who accuse him of defiling the temple and incite a mob. Paul is arrested by Roman soldiers who save him from being beaten to death. Paul requests to speak to the crowd and begins to address them in their own language.

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### Opening Question

How do you think Paul felt knowing he was heading into danger in Jerusalem, and what can we learn from his determination and faith?

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### Outline

#### 1. Journey to Jerusalem (Acts 21:1-16)

- Paul receives warnings from disciples and prophets
- Continues to Jerusalem despite the warnings

Application Question: How should we respond when we feel called to do something difficult or dangerous?

#### 2. Meeting with James and the Elders (Acts 21:17-26)

- Paul meets with James and the elders in Jerusalem
- Advised to participate in purification rites to counteract rumors

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: How can we address misunderstandings and maintain unity within our faith community?

## 3. Paul's Arrest in the Temple (Acts 21:27-36)

- Jews from Asia recognize Paul and accuse him of defiling the temple
- A mob forms and Paul is arrested by Roman soldiers

Application Question: How can we remain calm and composed in the face of false accusations and hostility?

## 4. Paul's Request to Speak to the Crowd (Acts 21:37-40)

- Paul asks to address the crowd
- Begins speaking to them in their own language

Application Question: How can we use our opportunities to speak wisely and effectively, even in challenging situations?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 21:13: "Then Paul answered, 'Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.'"

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the scene of Paul's arrest in the temple, focusing on his calmness and the reaction of the mob.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss how we can discern and follow God's calling in our lives, even when it involves facing difficult or dangerous situations.
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# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Quiz

1. What did disciples and prophets warn Paul about?
  - Financial troubles
  - Imprisonment and danger in Jerusalem
  - Bad weather
  - Health issues
2. Who did Paul meet with in Jerusalem?
  - Peter
  - James and the elders
  - The high priest
  - Roman soldiers
3. What did the elders advise Paul to do in Jerusalem?
  - Flee the city
  - Take part in purification rites
  - Preach in the marketplace
  - Avoid the temple
4. Who recognized Paul in the temple and accused him?
  - Roman soldiers
  - Jews from Asia
  - Greek merchants
  - Pharisees
5. What was Paul accused of doing in the temple?
  - Preaching
  - Defiling the temple
  - Stealing
  - Performing miracles
6. Who saved Paul from being beaten to death by the mob?
  - Disciples
  - James and the elders

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Roman soldiers
  - Jewish leaders
7. What did Paul request from the Roman commander?
- To be released
  - To speak to the crowd
  - To be taken to prison
  - To see the high priest
8. In what language did Paul address the crowd?
- Greek
  - Latin
  - Aramaic
  - Hebrew
9. Why did Paul participate in the purification rites?
- To show he was still observing Jewish law
  - To avoid conflict
  - To please the Roman soldiers
  - To cleanse himself from sin
10. Where was Paul heading when he was arrested?
- The marketplace
  - The temple
  - The Roman barracks
  - The synagogue

Answers: 1. Imprisonment and danger in Jerusalem, 2. James and the elders, 3. Take part in purification rites, 4. Jews from Asia, 5. Defiling the temple, 6. Roman soldiers, 7. To speak to the crowd, 8. Aramaic, 9. To show he was still observing Jewish law, 10. The temple

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Fill in the Blank

1. Disciples and prophets warned Paul about dangers in \_\_\_\_\_.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

2. Paul met with \_\_\_\_\_ and the elders in Jerusalem.
3. The elders advised Paul to take part in \_\_\_\_\_ rites.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ from Asia recognized Paul in the temple.
5. Paul was accused of \_\_\_\_\_ the temple.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ soldiers saved Paul from being beaten by the mob.
7. Paul requested to speak to the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Paul addressed the crowd in their own \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: Jerusalem, James, purification, Jews, defiling, Roman, crowd, language

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Purification - The process of making something spiritually or ceremonially clean, from the Greek word "katharismos" meaning "cleansing."
2. Accuse - To charge someone with an offense, from the Greek word "kategoreo" meaning "to speak against."
3. Mob - A large and disorderly crowd, from the Latin word "mobile vulgus" meaning "fickle crowd."
4. Commander - An officer in charge of an army, from the Greek word "chiliarchos" meaning "leader of a thousand."
5. Defile - To make unclean or impure, from the Greek word "miaino" meaning "to stain."
6. Rites - Ceremonial acts or procedures, from the Greek word "teleute" meaning "completion."
7. Aramaic - A Semitic language spoken in the Near East, from the Greek word "Aramais" meaning "Aramaic."
8. Discern - To perceive or recognize clearly, from the Latin word "discernere" meaning "to separate."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 22, Paul addresses the crowd in Jerusalem, speaking in Aramaic to gain their attention. He recounts his early life, education under Gamaliel, and his persecution of Christians. Paul describes his dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus and his subsequent mission to the Gentiles. The crowd listens until Paul mentions his mission to the Gentiles, which incites their anger. The Roman commander orders Paul to be flogged, but Paul reveals his Roman citizenship, preventing the punishment. The chapter concludes with Paul being brought before the Sanhedrin for further questioning.

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### Opening Question

How do you think Paul's background and conversion story impacted his mission, and how can our personal experiences shape our own faith journeys?

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### Outline

#### 1. Paul Addresses the Crowd (Acts 22:1-2)

- Speaks in Aramaic to gain the crowd's attention
- Crowd becomes very quiet

Application Question: How can we effectively communicate with others to share our faith?

#### 2. Paul's Background and Early Life (Acts 22:3-5)

- Educated under Gamaliel, zealous for God
- Persecuted Christians, imprisoning both men and women



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: How can our past experiences be used to relate to and help others?

## 3. Paul's Conversion on the Road to Damascus (Acts 22:6-16)

- Describes the encounter with Jesus
- Blinded by the light, instructed by Ananias, baptized

Application Question: How has a significant moment in your life changed your perspective or mission?

## 4. Paul's Mission to the Gentiles (Acts 22:17-21)

- Vision in the temple, instructed to leave Jerusalem
- Mission to the Gentiles

Application Question: How can we be open to the direction God is leading us, even if it's unexpected?

## 5. Reaction of the Crowd and Roman Intervention (Acts 22:22-29)

- Crowd reacts angrily to the mention of Gentiles
- Roman commander orders flogging; Paul reveals his Roman citizenship

Application Question: How should we respond to hostility and protect our rights while maintaining our witness?

## 6. Paul Before the Sanhedrin (Acts 22:30)

- Commander brings Paul before the Sanhedrin for questioning

Application Question: How can we prepare ourselves to defend our faith and beliefs in challenging situations?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 22:14: "Then he said: 'The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth.'"

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Students reenact Paul's speech to the crowd, focusing on his conversion story and the reactions of the listeners.
3. Discussion Activity
- Discuss how personal testimonies can be powerful tools in sharing our faith and what elements make them impactful.
- 

## Quiz

1. In what language did Paul address the crowd in Jerusalem?
  - Hebrew
  - Greek
  - Latin
  - Aramaic
2. Who educated Paul in his early life?
  - Ananias
  - Gamaliel
  - Peter
  - John
3. What event did Paul describe that happened on the road to Damascus?
  - His arrest
  - His conversion
  - A miracle he performed
  - His meeting with Peter
4. Who helped Paul regain his sight in Damascus?
  - Peter
  - John
  - Ananias
  - Barnabas
5. What mission did Paul receive in a vision at the temple?

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- To preach to the Gentiles
  - To return to Jerusalem
  - To build a church
  - To write letters
6. How did the crowd react when Paul mentioned his mission to the Gentiles?
- They praised him
  - They became quiet
  - They reacted angrily
  - They left
7. What did the Roman commander order for Paul?
- To be released
  - To be flogged
  - To be given food
  - To be sent to Rome
8. What citizenship did Paul reveal to avoid flogging?
- Jewish
  - Greek
  - Roman
  - Egyptian
9. To whom was Paul brought for further questioning at the end of the chapter?
- The high priest
  - The Sanhedrin
  - The Roman emperor
  - The disciples
10. What was the crowd's reaction when Paul spoke in their language?
- They ignored him
  - They listened quietly
  - They mocked him
  - They attacked him

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Answers: 1. Aramaic, 2. Gamaliel, 3. His conversion, 4. Ananias, 5. To preach to the Gentiles, 6. They reacted angrily, 7. To be flogged, 8. Roman, 9. The Sanhedrin, 10. They listened quietly

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Paul addressed the crowd in \_\_\_\_\_ to gain their attention.
2. Paul was educated under \_\_\_\_\_.
3. On the road to \_\_\_\_\_, Paul had a dramatic conversion.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ helped Paul regain his sight in Damascus.
5. Paul received a mission to preach to the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The crowd reacted \_\_\_\_\_ when Paul mentioned his mission to the Gentiles.
7. The Roman commander ordered Paul to be \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Paul revealed his \_\_\_\_\_ citizenship to avoid punishment.
9. Paul was brought before the \_\_\_\_\_ for further questioning.
10. The crowd listened \_\_\_\_\_ when Paul spoke in their language.

Answers: Aramaic, Gamaliel, Damascus, Ananias, Gentiles, angrily, flogged, Roman, Sanhedrin, quietly

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Testimony - A formal written or spoken statement, especially one given in a court of law, from the Greek word "martyria" meaning "witness."
2. Conversion - The process of changing or causing something to change from one form to another, from the Latin word "conversionem" meaning "turning around."
3. Vision - An experience of seeing something in a dream or trance, from the Greek word "horama" meaning "sight."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

4. Citizenship - The position or status of being a citizen of a particular country, from the Greek word "politeia" meaning "citizenship."
5. Sanhedrin - The supreme council and tribunal of the Jews during post-exilic times, from the Greek word "synedrion" meaning "assembly."
6. Persecute - To subject someone to hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of their race or political or religious beliefs, from the Latin word "persecut-" meaning "followed with hostility."
7. Flog - To beat someone with a whip or stick as a punishment, from the Greek word "mastigoo" meaning "to scourge."
8. Gentiles - People who are not Jewish, from the Greek word "ethnos" meaning "nation" or "people."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## *CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE*

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 23, Paul stands before the Sanhedrin and declares his good conscience before God. The high priest Ananias orders Paul to be struck, leading to a heated exchange. Paul cleverly divides the Sanhedrin by declaring his belief in the resurrection, causing a dispute between the Pharisees and Sadducees. A plot to kill Paul is discovered by his nephew, who informs the Roman commander. The commander arranges for Paul to be taken to Governor Felix in Caesarea under heavy guard to ensure his safety. The chapter ends with Paul awaiting his trial before Felix.

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### Opening Question

How do you think Paul's ability to stay calm and strategic in the face of hostility helped him navigate the challenges he faced, and how can we apply similar strategies in our own lives?

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### Outline

#### 1. Paul Before the Sanhedrin (Acts 23:1-10)

- Paul declares his good conscience
- Ordered to be struck by Ananias
- Divides the Sanhedrin by declaring belief in the resurrection

Application Question: How can we use wisdom and discernment when facing opposition to our beliefs?

#### 2. The Plot to Kill Paul (Acts 23:11-22)

- Paul's nephew discovers the plot

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Nephew informs the Roman commander

Application Question: How can we be vigilant and proactive in protecting ourselves and others from harm?

## 3. Paul Transferred to Caesarea (Acts 23:23-35)

- Roman commander arranges for Paul's transfer under heavy guard
- Paul is taken to Governor Felix in Caesarea
- Awaiting trial before Felix

Application Question: How can we trust in God's protection and provision when we are in uncertain and dangerous situations?

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## Possible Activities

### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 23:11: "The following night the Lord stood near Paul and said, 'Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome.'"

### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact Paul's trial before the Sanhedrin, focusing on his calm demeanor and strategic responses.

### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the importance of staying calm under pressure and how to apply strategic thinking in challenging situations.
- 

## Quiz

1. Who ordered Paul to be struck during his trial before the Sanhedrin?

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Felix
  - Ananias
  - Gamaliel
  - Caiaphas
2. What did Paul declare that caused a division among the Sanhedrin?
- His Roman citizenship
  - His belief in the resurrection
  - His innocence
  - His loyalty to the high priest
3. Who discovered the plot to kill Paul?
- A Roman soldier
  - Paul's nephew
  - An angel
  - The high priest
4. To whom did Paul's nephew report the plot?
- The high priest
  - The Roman commander
  - Felix
  - Paul
5. Where was Paul taken to ensure his safety?
- Jerusalem
  - Rome
  - Antioch
  - Caesarea
6. Who was the governor Paul was taken to?
- Felix
  - Pilate
  - Festus
  - Herod
7. How many soldiers were assigned to guard Paul during his transfer?



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- 100
  - 200
  - 400
  - 470
8. What was Paul awaiting in Caesarea?
- His execution
  - His trial before Felix
  - His transfer to Rome
  - His release
9. How did Paul create a division among the Sanhedrin?
- By appealing to Caesar
  - By mentioning his visions
  - By talking about the resurrection
  - By claiming to be a prophet
10. What did the Lord tell Paul in a vision?
- To flee the city
  - To fight back
  - To take courage and testify in Rome
  - To remain silent

Answers: 1. Ananias, 2. His belief in the resurrection, 3. Paul's nephew, 4. The Roman commander, 5. Caesarea, 6. Felix, 7. 470, 8. His trial before Felix, 9. By talking about the resurrection, 10. To take courage and testify in Rome

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Fill in the Blank

1. Paul declared his good \_\_\_\_\_ before the Sanhedrin.
2. The high priest \_\_\_\_\_ ordered Paul to be struck.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

3. Paul declared his belief in the \_\_\_\_\_, causing a division among the Sanhedrin.
4. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ discovered the plot to kill him.
5. The Roman commander arranged for Paul's transfer to \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Paul was taken to Governor \_\_\_\_\_ in Caesarea.
7. Paul was guarded by \_\_\_\_\_ soldiers during his transfer.
8. The Lord told Paul to take \_\_\_\_\_ and testify in \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: conscience, Ananias, resurrection, nephew, Caesarea, Felix, 470, courage, Rome

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Sanhedrin - The supreme council and tribunal of the Jews during post-exilic times, from the Greek word "synedrion" meaning "assembly."
2. Conscience - An inner feeling or voice viewed as acting as a guide to the rightness or wrongness of one's behavior, from the Greek word "syneidēsis" meaning "moral consciousness."
3. Resurrection - The act of rising from the dead, from the Greek word "anastasis" meaning "a raising up."
4. Plot - A secret plan or scheme to accomplish some purpose, from the Greek word "epiboulē" meaning "a plan against someone."
5. Commander - An officer in charge of an army, from the Greek word "chiliarchos" meaning "leader of a thousand."
6. Testify - To give evidence as a witness in a law court, from the Greek word "martyreō" meaning "to bear witness."
7. Courage - The ability to do something that frightens one, from the Greek word "tharros" meaning "confidence, boldness."
8. Division - The act of separating something into parts or the process of being separated, from the Greek word "schisma" meaning "split, division."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 24, Paul is brought before Governor Felix in Caesarea. The high priest Ananias and a lawyer named Tertullus present their case against Paul, accusing him of stirring up riots and desecrating the temple. Paul defends himself by explaining his faith in Jesus and clarifying that he has done nothing against the law or the temple. Felix, familiar with the Way, postpones the decision and keeps Paul under house arrest, allowing him some freedom and visits from friends. Felix frequently calls for Paul, hoping for a bribe, but after two years, Paul remains imprisoned as Felix is succeeded by Festus.

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### Opening Question

How do you think Paul felt being under house arrest for two years, and how can we maintain our faith and hope in prolonged periods of waiting or uncertainty?

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### Outline

#### 1. Accusations Against Paul (Acts 24:1-9)

- Ananias and Tertullus present their case
- Accusations of stirring up riots and desecrating the temple

Application Question: How should we respond when falsely accused or misunderstood?

#### 2. Paul's Defense Before Felix (Acts 24:10-21)

- Paul explains his faith in Jesus
- Clarifies that he has not violated the law or the temple

Application Question: How can we clearly and calmly defend our faith when questioned?

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## 3. Felix Postpones the Decision (Acts 24:22-23)

- Felix, familiar with the Way, postpones the decision
- Paul kept under house arrest with some freedom

Application Question: How can we maintain hope and patience during times of waiting and uncertainty?

## 4. Felix's Encounters with Paul (Acts 24:24-27)

- Felix frequently calls for Paul, hoping for a bribe
- Paul remains imprisoned for two years as Felix is succeeded by Festus

Application Question: How can we stay true to our values and faith even when faced with unjust treatment or opportunities for compromise?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 24:16: "So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man."

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the trial of Paul before Felix, focusing on the accusations and Paul's defense.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the challenges of maintaining faith during prolonged periods of waiting and how to find hope in those times.
- 

### Quiz

#### 1. Who presented the case against Paul before Felix?

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Peter and John
  - Ananias and Tertullus
  - Silas and Barnabas
  - James and Stephen
2. What was Paul accused of doing?
- Preaching in the synagogue
  - Stirring up riots and desecrating the temple
  - Healing on the Sabbath
  - Stealing from the treasury
3. How did Paul defend himself?
- By staying silent
  - By explaining his faith in Jesus
  - By offering a bribe
  - By fleeing the scene
4. What was Felix's decision after hearing Paul's defense?
- Immediate imprisonment
  - Execution
  - Postponement of the decision
  - Acquittal
5. What did Felix hope for from Paul?
- A miracle
  - A bribe
  - Information about the disciples
  - Proof of innocence
6. How long was Paul kept under house arrest?
- Six months
  - One year
  - Two years
  - Three years
7. Who succeeded Felix as governor?

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

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- Festus
  - Pilate
  - Agrippa
  - Herod
8. What freedoms was Paul allowed while under house arrest?
- Complete freedom
  - Visits from friends
  - Preaching in the synagogue
  - Traveling to other cities
9. What was Felix's knowledge of "the Way"?
- He was unfamiliar with it
  - He was well acquainted with it
  - He was indifferent to it
  - He opposed it
10. What did Paul strive to keep clear?
- His conscience before God and man
  - His schedule
  - His wealth
  - His health

Answers: 1. Ananias and Tertullus, 2. Stirring up riots and desecrating the temple, 3. By explaining his faith in Jesus, 4. Postponement of the decision, 5. A bribe, 6. Two years, 7. Festus, 8. Visits from friends, 9. He was well acquainted with it, 10. His conscience before God and man

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Fill in the Blank

1. Paul was brought before Governor \_\_\_\_\_ in Caesarea.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

2. The high priest \_\_\_\_\_ and the lawyer Tertullus presented their case against Paul.
3. Paul was accused of stirring up \_\_\_\_\_ and desecrating the temple.
4. Paul defended himself by explaining his \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus.
5. Felix was familiar with "the \_\_\_\_\_."
6. Paul was kept under \_\_\_\_\_ arrest with some freedom.
7. Felix frequently called for Paul, hoping for a \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Paul remained imprisoned for \_\_\_\_\_ years as Felix was succeeded by Festus.

Answers: Felix, Ananias, riots, faith, Way, house, bribe, two

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Accuse - To charge someone with an offense, from the Greek word "kategoreo" meaning "to speak against."
2. Conscience - An inner feeling or voice viewed as acting as a guide to the rightness or wrongness of one's behavior, from the Greek word "syneidēsis" meaning "moral consciousness."
3. House arrest - The state of being kept as a prisoner in one's own house rather than in a prison, from the Latin word "domus" meaning "house" and "arrestum" meaning "restraint."
4. Bribe - Money or favor given or promised to influence the judgment or conduct of a person, from the Greek word "doron" meaning "gift."
5. Desecrate - To treat (a sacred place or thing) with violent disrespect, from the Latin word "desecrat-" meaning "polluted."
6. Governor - The official appointed to govern a town or region, from the Greek word "hegemon" meaning "leader."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

7. Trial - A formal examination of evidence in court, from the Latin word "triallum" meaning "a test."
8. Faith - Complete trust or confidence in someone or something, from the Greek word "pistis" meaning "belief."



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 25, Festus becomes the new governor and hears Paul's case. The Jewish leaders request that Paul be transferred to Jerusalem, planning an ambush to kill him. Festus denies their request and keeps Paul in Caesarea. During a hearing before Festus, Paul appeals to Caesar to avoid being sent to Jerusalem. Festus agrees to send Paul to Rome. King Agrippa and his sister Bernice visit Festus, and Festus discusses Paul's case with them. Agrippa expresses interest in hearing Paul himself, setting the stage for Paul's defense before the king.

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### Opening Question

How do you think Paul felt when he had to appeal to Caesar to avoid an ambush, and what can we learn about standing firm in our faith during dangerous situations?

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### Outline

#### 1. Festus Takes Over as Governor (Acts 25:1-5)

- Festus arrives in Caesarea and hears the case against Paul
- Jewish leaders request Paul's transfer to Jerusalem, planning an ambush
- Festus denies the request, keeping Paul in Caesarea

Application Question: How can we trust in God's protection when facing threats from others?

#### 2. Paul's Hearing Before Festus (Acts 25:6-12)

- Paul defends himself against the accusations
- Appeals to Caesar to avoid being sent to Jerusalem

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Festus agrees to send Paul to Rome

Application Question: How can we wisely use available resources to protect ourselves and continue our mission?

## 3. King Agrippa and Bernice Visit Festus (Acts 25:13-22)

- Festus discusses Paul's case with Agrippa
- Agrippa expresses interest in hearing Paul himself

Application Question: How can we take advantage of opportunities to share our faith with those in positions of influence?

## 4. Paul Prepared to Speak Before Agrippa (Acts 25:23-27)

- Paul is brought before Agrippa and Bernice
- Festus introduces Paul's case, setting the stage for Paul's defense

Application Question: How can we prepare ourselves to clearly and confidently share our testimony and faith story?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 25:11: "If, however, I am guilty of doing anything deserving death, I do not refuse to die. But if the charges brought against me by these Jews are not true, no one has the right to hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar!"

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the scene where Paul appeals to Caesar, focusing on his courage and wisdom.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the importance of standing firm in faith during dangerous situations and how to trust in God's protection.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Quiz

1. Who became the new governor in Acts 25?
  - Felix
  - Festus
  - Agrippa
  - Pilate
2. What did the Jewish leaders request regarding Paul?
  - To release him
  - To transfer him to Jerusalem
  - To execute him
  - To send him to Rome
3. Why did the Jewish leaders want Paul transferred to Jerusalem?
  - To give him a fair trial
  - To ambush and kill him
  - To convert him
  - To imprison him
4. Where did Festus keep Paul instead of sending him to Jerusalem?
  - Antioch
  - Rome
  - Caesarea
  - Ephesus
5. What did Paul do to avoid being sent to Jerusalem?
  - Fled the city
  - Bribed Festus
  - Appealed to Caesar
  - Converted to Judaism
6. Who visited Festus and expressed interest in hearing Paul's case?
  - Felix

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Pilate
  - Agrippa and Bernice
  - Herod
7. What was Festus's response to Paul's appeal to Caesar?
- Denied it
  - Ignored it
  - Agreed to send him to Rome
  - Postponed the decision
8. What did Agrippa express interest in regarding Paul?
- Imprisoning him
  - Executing him
  - Hearing him speak
  - Releasing him
9. Who introduced Paul's case to Agrippa?
- Felix
  - Festus
  - Bernice
  - Peter
10. What was the primary reason Paul appealed to Caesar?
- To avoid being ambushed
  - To gain freedom
  - To preach in Rome
  - To see the emperor

Answers: 1. Festus, 2. To transfer him to Jerusalem, 3. To ambush and kill him, 4. Caesarea, 5. Appealed to Caesar, 6. Agrippa and Bernice, 7. Agreed to send him to Rome, 8. Hearing him speak, 9. Festus, 10. To avoid being ambushed

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Fill in the Blank

1. Festus became the new governor and heard the case against \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Jewish leaders requested that Paul be transferred to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Festus denied the request and kept Paul in \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Paul appealed to \_\_\_\_\_ to avoid being sent to Jerusalem.
5. King \_\_\_\_\_ and Bernice visited Festus and expressed interest in hearing Paul.
6. Festus discussed Paul's case with \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Paul was brought before Agrippa and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Festus introduced Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ to Agrippa.

Answers: Paul, Jerusalem, Caesarea, Caesar, Agrippa, Agrippa, Bernice, case

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Governor - The official appointed to govern a town or region, from the Greek word "hegemon" meaning "leader."
2. Appeal - To make a serious or urgent request, from the Latin word "appellare" meaning "to address."
3. Ambush - A surprise attack by people lying in wait in a concealed position, from the Greek word "enedra" meaning "lying in wait."
4. Defense - The action of defending from or resisting attack, from the Greek word "apologia" meaning "a speech in defense."
5. Influence - The capacity to have an effect on the character, development, or behavior of someone or something, from the Latin word "influere" meaning "to flow in."
6. Accuse - To charge someone with an offense, from the Greek word "kategoreo" meaning "to speak against."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

7. Testimony - A formal written or spoken statement, especially one given in a court of law, from the Greek word "martyria" meaning "witness."
8. Courage - The ability to do something that frightens one, from the Greek word "tharros" meaning "confidence, boldness."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 26, Paul stands before King Agrippa and recounts his life story, emphasizing his strict Pharisaic background and zealous persecution of Christians. He describes his dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus, where Jesus appeared to him. Paul explains his mission to the Gentiles, which led to his arrest. He passionately defends his faith, declaring the truth of Jesus' resurrection. Agrippa listens intently and, while unconvinced, acknowledges that Paul has done nothing deserving death or imprisonment. The chapter concludes with Agrippa and Festus agreeing that Paul could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar.

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### Opening Question

How do you think Paul's personal testimony influenced King Agrippa, and how can sharing our personal faith stories impact others?

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### Outline

#### 1. Paul Before King Agrippa (Acts 26:1-3)

- Agrippa allows Paul to speak for himself
- Paul begins his defense

Application Question: How can we respectfully present our faith to those in authority or with different beliefs?

#### 2. Paul's Background and Persecution of Christians (Acts 26:4-11)

- Describes his strict Pharisaic upbringing
- His zealous persecution of Christians

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: How can our past experiences shape our understanding and communication of the gospel?

## 3. Paul's Conversion on the Road to Damascus (Acts 26:12-18)

- Jesus appears to Paul
- Paul's mission to the Gentiles is revealed

Application Question: How has a significant spiritual experience changed your life and direction?

## 4. Paul's Mission and Arrest (Acts 26:19-23)

- Obeys the vision and preaches to Jews and Gentiles
- Arrested for his faith and testimony

Application Question: How can we remain faithful to our calling despite opposition?

## 5. Agrippa's Reaction and Paul's Appeal to Caesar (Acts 26:24-32)

- Agrippa and Festus discuss Paul's innocence
- Agrippa acknowledges that Paul could have been freed

Application Question: How can we trust in God's plan even when it leads to unexpected outcomes?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 26:22: "But God has helped me to this very day; so I stand here and testify to small and great alike."

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact Paul's testimony before Agrippa, focusing on his passion and conviction.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the power of personal testimonies and how sharing our faith stories can impact others.



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

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## Quiz

1. Who allowed Paul to speak for himself in this chapter?
  - Festus
  - Felix
  - Agrippa
  - Bernice
2. What background did Paul describe in his defense?
  - Sadducee upbringing
  - Gentile upbringing
  - Pharisaic upbringing
  - Roman upbringing
3. Who appeared to Paul on the road to Damascus?
  - An angel
  - Jesus
  - Peter
  - John
4. What was Paul's mission after his conversion?
  - To preach only to Jews
  - To preach only in Jerusalem
  - To preach to both Jews and Gentiles
  - To write letters to churches
5. Why was Paul arrested?
  - For stealing
  - For preaching the resurrection of Jesus
  - For inciting riots
  - For defiling the temple

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

6. What did Agrippa acknowledge about Paul's situation?
  - That Paul was guilty
  - That Paul deserved death
  - That Paul could have been freed
  - That Paul should be flogged
7. How did Paul describe his early life?
  - As a fisherman
  - As a Roman soldier
  - As a strict Pharisee
  - As a tax collector
8. What did Paul emphasize in his defense before Agrippa?
  - His wealth
  - His travels
  - The resurrection of Jesus
  - His miracles
9. How did Festus react to Paul's testimony?
  - He agreed with Paul
  - He mocked Paul
  - He called Paul insane
  - He ordered Paul's release
10. What was Agrippa's final statement about Paul?
  - He should be executed
  - He should be imprisoned longer
  - He could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar
  - He should be sent to another province

Answers: 1. Agrippa, 2. Pharisaic upbringing, 3. Jesus, 4. To preach to both Jews and Gentiles, 5. For preaching the resurrection of Jesus, 6. That Paul could have been freed, 7. As a strict Pharisee, 8. The resurrection of Jesus, 9. He called Paul insane, 10. He could have been set free if he had not appealed to Caesar

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

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## Fill in the Blank

1. Paul stood before King \_\_\_\_\_ and defended himself.
2. Paul described his strict \_\_\_\_\_ upbringing.
3. On the road to Damascus, \_\_\_\_\_ appeared to Paul.
4. Paul's mission was to preach to both \_\_\_\_\_ and Gentiles.
5. Paul was arrested for preaching the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.
6. Agrippa acknowledged that Paul could have been \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Paul emphasized the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus in his defense.
8. Festus called Paul \_\_\_\_\_ after his testimony.
9. Paul obeyed the vision and preached to \_\_\_\_\_ and Gentiles.
10. Paul could have been set free if he had not appealed to \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: Agrippa, Pharisaic, Jesus, Jews, resurrection, freed, resurrection, insane, Jews, Caesar

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Testimony - A formal written or spoken statement, especially one given in a court of law, from the Greek word "martyria" meaning "witness."
2. Pharisee - A member of an ancient Jewish sect, distinguished by strict observance of the traditional and written law, from the Greek word "Pharisaioi" meaning "separated one."
3. Conversion - The process of changing or causing something to change from one form to another, from the Latin word "conversionem" meaning "turning around."
4. Resurrection - The act of rising from the dead, from the Greek word "anastasis" meaning "a raising up."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

5. Vision - An experience of seeing something in a dream or trance, from the Greek word "horama" meaning "sight."
6. Gentile - A person who is not Jewish, from the Greek word "ethnos" meaning "nation" or "people."
7. Appeal - To make a serious or urgent request, from the Latin word "appellare" meaning "to address."
8. Insane - In a state of mind that prevents normal perception, behavior, or social interaction, from the Latin word "insanus" meaning "mad, crazy."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 27, Paul embarks on a voyage to Rome as a prisoner. The journey is perilous, with the ship encountering strong winds and storms. Despite Paul's warning, the centurion in charge decides to continue the journey. The ship is caught in a violent storm, and Paul reassures the crew that they will survive, though the ship will be lost. An angel had told Paul that he must stand trial before Caesar and that all aboard would be spared. After two weeks adrift, they shipwreck on the island of Malta, but all 276 people on board survive.

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### Opening Question

How would you feel if you were in a storm at sea, and what can we learn from Paul's faith and leadership during such a crisis?

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### Outline

#### 1. Paul's Voyage Begins (Acts 27:1-8)

- Paul and other prisoners set sail for Rome
- Encounter initial difficulties and strong winds

Application Question: How can we trust in God's plan even when facing initial obstacles?

#### 2. Paul's Warning Ignored (Acts 27:9-12)

- Paul warns the crew of danger
- The centurion decides to continue the journey

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: How should we respond when our advice or warnings are not heeded?

## 3. The Storm and Paul's Assurance (Acts 27:13-26)

- The ship encounters a violent storm
- Paul reassures the crew, sharing his vision from the angel

Application Question: How can we provide reassurance and hope to others in times of crisis?

## 4. Shipwreck on Malta (Acts 27:27-44)

- After two weeks adrift, the shipwrecks on Malta
- All 276 people on board survive as Paul had promised

Application Question: How can we maintain faith and leadership when faced with overwhelming challenges?

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### Possible Activities

#### 1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Acts 27:25: "So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me."

#### 2. Role Playing Activity

- Students reenact the scenes of the storm and shipwreck, focusing on Paul's leadership and faith.

#### 3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss how we can remain calm and faithful during crises and the importance of listening to wise counsel.
-

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Quiz

1. Where was Paul traveling as a prisoner in Acts 27?
  - Jerusalem
  - Rome
  - Athens
  - Antioch
2. What did Paul warn the crew about?
  - A storm
  - Pirates
  - Food shortage
  - A mutiny
3. Who decided to continue the journey despite Paul's warning?
  - The captain
  - The centurion
  - The ship's owner
  - The crew
4. How long did the storm last?
  - Three days
  - One week
  - Two weeks
  - One month
5. Who appeared to Paul to reassure him during the storm?
  - Jesus
  - An angel
  - Peter
  - John
6. What was the message given to Paul by the angel?
  - They would find land soon
  - He must stand trial before Caesar and everyone on board would be spared

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- The storm would end immediately
- The ship would not be damaged
- 7. Where did the shipwreck occur?
  - Crete
  - Malta
  - Cyprus
  - Sicily
- 8. How many people were on board the ship?
  - 100
  - 150
  - 200
  - 276
- 9. What did Paul encourage the crew to do before the shipwreck?
  - Abandon ship
  - Pray continuously
  - Eat and keep up their strength
  - Jump into the sea
- 10. What was the outcome for everyone on board after the shipwreck?
  - They all drowned
  - They were captured by pirates
  - They all survived
  - Only a few survived

Answers: 1. Rome, 2. A storm, 3. The centurion, 4. Two weeks, 5. An angel, 6. He must stand trial before Caesar and everyone on board would be spared, 7. Malta, 8. 276, 9. Eat and keep up their strength, 10. They all survived

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# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## Fill in the Blank

1. Paul was traveling to \_\_\_\_\_ as a prisoner.
2. Paul warned the crew about a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ decided to continue the journey despite Paul's warning.
4. The storm lasted for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.
5. An \_\_\_\_\_ appeared to Paul to reassure him.
6. The angel told Paul he must stand trial before \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The shipwreck occurred on the island of \_\_\_\_\_.
8. There were \_\_\_\_\_ people on board the ship.
9. Paul encouraged the crew to eat and keep up their \_\_\_\_\_.
10. After the shipwreck, \_\_\_\_\_ on board survived.

Answers: Rome, storm, centurion, two, angel, Caesar, Malta, 276, strength, everyone

---

## Vocabulary Words

1. Centurion - A commander in the Roman army, from the Latin word "centurio" meaning "commander of a hundred."
2. Voyage - A long journey involving travel by sea, from the Latin word "viaticum" meaning "provisions for a journey."
3. Shipwreck - The destruction or loss of a ship, from the Old English word "sceipwræc" meaning "wreck of a ship."
4. Reassure - To restore confidence, from the Old French word "rassseurer" meaning "to reassure."
5. Adrift - Floating without being steered, from the Old Norse word "drifa" meaning "to drive."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

6. Malta - An island in the Mediterranean Sea, from the Greek word "Melite" meaning "honey-sweet."
7. Strength - The quality of being physically strong, from the Old English word "strengðu" meaning "force, power, vigor."
8. Courage - The ability to do something that frightens one, from the Latin word "cor" meaning "heart."

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

## CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT

### Summary of Chapter

In Acts chapter 28, Paul and the others shipwrecked on Malta are warmly received by the islanders. Paul is bitten by a viper but suffers no harm, leading the people to believe he is a god. He heals many sick people on the island, including the father of Publius, the chief official. After three months, they set sail for Rome. In Rome, Paul is allowed to live by himself with a soldier to guard him. He calls the local Jewish leaders, explains his situation, and preaches about the kingdom of God and Jesus. Paul continues to preach boldly for two years under house arrest.

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### Opening Question

How would you respond if you witnessed a miracle like Paul being unharmed by the viper, and what can this teach us about God's protection and power?

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### Outline

#### 1. Paul on Malta (Acts 28:1-10)

- Shipwrecked survivors received warmly by islanders
- Paul bitten by a viper but unharmed
- Paul heals many, including Publius's father

Application Question: How can we use our experiences and abilities to serve others in times of crisis?

#### 2. Journey to Rome (Acts 28:11-16)

- After three months, they set sail for Rome
- Paul welcomed by believers in Rome and allowed to live under guard

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

Application Question: How can we maintain our faith and witness in new and challenging environments?

3. Paul's Ministry in Rome (Acts 28:17-31)
  - Calls local Jewish leaders to explain his situation
  - Preaches about the kingdom of God and Jesus
  - Continues preaching boldly for two years under house arrest

Application Question: How can we boldly share our faith and message of hope even when facing personal trials?

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## Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge
    - Memorize Acts 28:31: "He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!"
  2. Role Playing Activity
    - Students reenact Paul's interactions on Malta, focusing on his miraculous survival and healing acts.
  3. Discussion Activity
    - Discuss how to remain steadfast in faith and continue ministry even when faced with difficult and changing circumstances.
- 

## Quiz

1. Where did Paul and the others shipwreck?
  - Crete
  - Cyprus

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- Malta
  - Sicily
2. What happened to Paul on the island of Malta?
- He was bitten by a viper but was unharmed
  - He was imprisoned
  - He was shipwrecked again
  - He was ignored by the islanders
3. Who was the chief official of the island of Malta?
- Felix
  - Agrippa
  - Publius
  - Festus
4. What did Paul do for the father of the chief official?
- Preached to him
  - Baptized him
  - Healed him
  - Arrested him
5. How long did Paul and the others stay on Malta?
- One month
  - Two months
  - Three months
  - Four months
6. How was Paul treated when he arrived in Rome?
- He was immediately imprisoned
  - He was ignored
  - He was welcomed by believers and allowed to live by himself under guard
  - He was sent to the emperor
7. Who did Paul call to meet with him in Rome?
- The Roman governor
  - The local Jewish leaders

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

- The emperor
  - The disciples
8. What did Paul preach about in Rome?
- The Roman law
  - The kingdom of God and Jesus
  - His own journey
  - Jewish customs
9. How long did Paul preach in Rome while under house arrest?
- Six months
  - One year
  - Two years
  - Three years
10. How did Paul preach in Rome despite his circumstances?
- With all boldness and without hindrance
  - Secretly and fearfully
  - Occasionally and with restrictions
  - Only to his guards

Answers: 1. Malta, 2. He was bitten by a viper but was unharmed, 3. Publius, 4. Healed him, 5. Three months, 6. He was welcomed by believers and allowed to live by himself under guard, 7. The local Jewish leaders, 8. The kingdom of God and Jesus, 9. Two years, 10. With all boldness and without hindrance

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Fill in the Blank

1. Paul and the others shipwrecked on the island of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Paul was bitten by a \_\_\_\_\_ but was unharmed.

# THE BOOK OF ACTS

Observe, Interpret, Apply

3. The chief official of the island was named \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Paul healed the father of the chief \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Paul and the others stayed on Malta for \_\_\_\_\_ months.
6. In Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself under \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Paul called the local \_\_\_\_\_ leaders to meet with him in Rome.
8. Paul preached about the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Paul continued to preach in Rome for \_\_\_\_\_ years.
10. Paul preached with all \_\_\_\_\_ and without \_\_\_\_\_.

Answers: Malta, viper, Publius, official, three, guard, Jewish, kingdom, Jesus, two, boldness, hindrance

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## Vocabulary Words

1. Viper - A venomous snake, from the Greek word "echidna" meaning "serpent."
2. Shipwreck - The destruction or loss of a ship, from the Old English word "sceipwræc" meaning "wreck of a ship."
3. Guard - A person who keeps watch, from the Greek word "phylax" meaning "protector."
4. Boldness - Willingness to take risks and act innovatively, from the Greek word "parrēsia" meaning "freedom of speech."
5. Proclaim - To announce officially or publicly, from the Greek word "kerysso" meaning "to preach."
6. Unharmful - Not hurt or damaged, from the Old English word "hearm" meaning "injury."
7. Kingdom - A country, state, or territory ruled by a king or queen, from the Greek word "basileia" meaning "rule" or "reign."
8. Hinder - To create difficulties for someone, resulting in delay or obstruction, from the Greek word "kolyo" meaning "to prevent."