

The Church that ACTS out!
The Church Comes Alive!
“The Story Continues”

Listen Up

- The Little Group of Nobodies that Changed the World
- Proclaiming the Good News of a Good King and His Good Kingdom which has arrived.
- “The Church is of God and will be preserved to the end of time....”
- Book of Acts:
 - Author: Luke the Physician (Luke 1:1-4; 24:45-53, Colossians 4:14; Philemon 24)
 - Part 2 of Luke’s account to Theophilus. (Luke/Acts)
 - Can’t grasp the Church without the Gospels and the Gospel is incomplete apart from the Church.
- Homework for the series:
 - Read Acts and apply it to personal life and church life
 - Put into action: WUMC ACTS OUT this Summer!

Dig into the Word (Acts 1:1-11)

- (vs 1-3) We know that We Know
 - Many convincing Proofs
 - Teaching and Instructions focusing on the Kingdom of God (Acts 1:3; Acts 28:31)
- (vs 4) We Know We Have to Wait to Share what We Know
 - The wait is the hardest part!
 - Fishing with a Bobber
 - Waiting Patiently in Obedience to God is never time wasted!
- (vs 5) We Know that We are Getting our Promised Gift!
 - Jesus’s many promises (John 14-16)
 - Coming of the Spirit fulfilled the Prophetic Hope (Isa 32, Ezek 36, Joel 2)
 - The Temple and the Presence of God
- (vs 6) We Know that We Know, but Still Don’t Understand What We Know
 - Kingdom of God vs Kingdom of Israel
 - The Common Misunderstandings in the Church
 - Know Truth, No Love
 - Know Love, No Truth
 - No Truth, No Love
 - Know Truth, Know Love, No others.
 - Know Truth, Know Love, Know Others (Not a misunderstanding but our aim!)
- (Vs 7-8) We Know Jesus Has a Purpose for Us
 - Witnesses: 2 necessities 1) Personal Experience 2) Willingness to Talk about it

- Witnesses, not bible scholars or professional debaters
- Partnering with God to Change to World
 - Image of God, Redeemed by God, Temple of God, Live with God. Who better to tell others?
- Scope of our Mission (Acts 1:8)
 - Jerusalem – Family/Church/Home
 - Judea- Friends/ Extended Family/ Work/ Community
 - Samaria- Outcast/ Enemies
 - World- Everyone Else.
- (vs 9-11) We Know Where He Is, and that He is Coming Back
 - “I’m with you always” and then He is gone!
 - Why Ascension important?
 - Jesus returned to Father (Authority)
 - Disciples move from God beside them physically to God within them Spiritually.
 - Time to take the Baton and run with it.

So What?

- Our Primary Purpose as a Church is to be Witnesses for Christ in the World
 - By Telling; By Serving; By Showing
 - We are all witnesses, either positive or negative.
 - Don’t know it all, but what we know we share.
- The Church Cannot Truly Be a Witness Apart from the Power of the Spirit
 - Saw vs Chainsaw
 - Building a “hangout” or growing His Kingdom?
- To be a Witness, the Church must be Outwardly Focused.
 - Touchdowns or Huddles

Final Thought

- The Blind man who came to the Doctor.

Discuss Around the Table

- What stood out to you the most about today’s sermon? How would you summarize the message?
- What most excites you about the book of Acts? What is your testimony? How are you a “Witness for Jesus and His Kingdom”?
- What are some common misunderstandings in Christianity today? How do people focus on the truth of the Gospel but miss out on His love? How can they be loving and yet not Know the Truth? What about those who claim to be Christian but not into “Church”?
- How is the Holy Spirt active in your life? In your home? In your church? If the Holy Spirit left your life today, would you notice? What would you miss? What would continue?

WUMC ACTS OUT!

This Summer, I Will Do	Specifically, I will Do ...	Date Accomplished
An Act of Kindness:	_____	_____
An Act of Boldness	_____	_____
An Act of Encouragement	_____	_____
An Act of Prayer	_____	_____
An Act of Service	_____	_____
An Act of Giving	_____	_____
An Act of Learning	_____	_____
An Act of Forgiveness	_____	_____
An Act of Crossing a Cultural Boundary	_____	_____
An Act of Testimony	_____	_____
An Act of Transformation	_____	_____
An Act of Devotion	_____	_____
An Act of Community Involvement	_____	_____
An Act of Church Fellowship	_____	_____
An Act of Witnessing to:	_____	_____
My Jerusalem is	_____	_____
My Judea is	_____	_____
My Samaria is	_____	_____
My World is	_____	_____

