

The Book of Acts

Study Guide and Discussion Questions

SUMMARY of Chapters 1-5

What have we learned so far?

Chapter 1: Jesus Equips the Believers

Chapter 2: The Arrival of the HOLY SPIRIT

Chapters 3 – 4: The Disciples' First Miracle and the believers are All In

Chapter 5: The slaying of the Holy Spirit - The Lord Will Not Tolerate Deceit

Chapter 1 – Jesus Equips the Believers

- The Promise of the Holy Spirit
- The Assignment given by Jesus
- The Response of the Believers

THE PROMISE:

John 14:16 The Holy Spirit will abide with us forever. The world does not know him, but we do because he dwells with us and is IN us.

John 14:25-27 The Holy Spirit will teach us all things and bring all things that Jesus has said into remembrance.

John 15:26 The Holy Spirit testifies of Jesus

John 16:8 The Holy Spirit will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness and of judgment

9 Of sin, because they believe not on me (Jesus);

10 Of righteousness, because I (Jesus) go to my Father, and ye see me no more;

11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world (Satan) is judged.

John 16:13 The Holy Spirit (here referred to as the Spirit of Truth) will guide you into all truth, whatever he hears, he shall speak and he shall show us things to come.

THE ASSIGNMENT:

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Power: dynamis: (miraculous) power, might, strength
Witnesses: martyrs: a witness – where we get the word Martyr -
“uttermost part of the earth”: to the whole world

Jesus told the disciples that they would need help to accomplish this mission. Their help would come from the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. This was not a one-time event, but the Holy Spirit would be a constant companion who would enable them to fulfill their assignment. How? With power, with truth, with miracles – such as healings, deliverance, words of knowledge, with courage, with persistence, endurance, understanding, wisdom.

THE RESPONSE:

Chapter 2 – The Arrival of the HOLY SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit fills the believers in the upper room
- The Holy Spirit empowers Peter to boldly proclaim the Gospel
- The Holy Spirit fills the 3000 believers who respond to Peter’s testimony
- The church is born

THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

PETER’S WITNESS:

THE RESULT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKING THROUGH PETER:

THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH:

Chapters 3 – 4 The Disciples First Miracle and the believers are All In

- Peter and John heal the paralytic

- Peter preaches at the temple
- Peter and John jailed by the Priests
- Peter and John witness to the Priests
- Peter and John released and testify to the believers
- The believers begin to sell property and land to give to the work of the church

Chapter 5 The slaying of the Holy Spirit - The Lord Will Not Tolerate Deceit

- **Ananias and Sapphira – lying to the Holy Spirit brings death**
- **The church is filled with fear (terror)**
- **More believers are added to their number – but these are not playing church!!**

Why is this important?

Looking ahead:

Chapter 6 – 7 The appointing of ministers to tend to the needs of the new church, an increase of believers, and the testimony of Stephen – who becomes the first martyr.