

Take It Home

Applying the Preached Word



Acts: Community Ablaze Why Acts?

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NOTE: In addition to the Take It Home questions below, further information and application questions related to this message are available in the Acts Study Guide. The Study Guide can be picked up on a Sunday morning, or accessed as a PDF file on our web site (www.covfel.org) by going to the HOME PAGE > RESOURCES > CURRENT SERIES, then scroll down to the study guide link. Each study corresponds to a preaching passage in the series.

Text: Acts 1:1-11

Main Point: The book of Acts tells the story of a community ablaze.

Key Ideas: There are three themes that run strongly through the book of Acts.

1. The power of the Spirit (verses 5 and 8).

- Acts is the story of the Holy Spirit being poured out on God's people for the advance of the Gospel.
- The outpouring of the Spirit resulted in tangible, visible effects on people and churches, not just in personal, internal experiences.

2. The unstoppable mission (verse 8).

- Acts reveals that God's people are to be witnesses – beginning at home – but extending to the ends of the earth.
- Witnesses don't talk about things they don't know. They simply speak out about what they know and have experienced.
- "You will be my witnesses" is not an invitation or command. It is a promise of something that will occur.

3. The exalted Hero.

- Jesus commissions the disciples – then he leaves. As they look up, what must they be thinking?
- But the ascension is not Jesus leaving those who need his help. Jesus ascends to his throne where he will rule over all that matters to his people with absolute authority. The one who died for the church now reigns for the church.
- We live in the reign of the ascended Christ. We study Acts so we can be reminded of what Jesus continues to do for us.

Fellowship Starters

Treasure - Application to stir our love for Christ

1. What has been your personal awareness of the Spirit being poured out in your life?

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Grow - Application to stir our obedience to Christ

2. Is there an area in your life where you are very aware at present that you need the power of the Spirit? What do you hope studying the book of Acts can do for you in this area?

3. We will be finishing this series in Acts in about one year. What are some things you hope you'll be able to look back on that God did in your life (and family) and in the church over the course of this series?

Proclaim - Application to stir our witness for Christ

4. What does it mean to you that Jesus promises you'll be a witness for him?

Song Set

God is Our Refuge – found on the album Psalms by Sovereign Grace Music.

When Trials Come – found on the album Awaken the Dawn by Keith and Kristyn Getty.

I Have a Shelter – found on the album Come Weary Saints by Sovereign Grace Music.

Before the Throne of God Above – found on the album Songs for the Cross Centered Life by Sovereign Grace Music.

The Father's Love – found on the album Sons & Daughters by Sovereign Grace Music.