



THE CHURCH ON FIRE – ACTS 1:1-5

GETTING STARTED

The book of Acts is one of the most exciting books in the New Testament! With stories of the apostles being arrested, breaking out of prison and nearly escaping death and even laying down their lives the book reads like a best seller. But the most amazing thing about the book is seeing how Jesus sets his church on fire! The book of Acts sees the gospel go forward from Jerusalem, to Samaria and reaching all the way to Rome. But that isn't because the apostles had the right strategy, but because Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit takes a small group of believers and lights them on fire to see the gospel of Jesus go into the whole world. And that is where our church comes in, we are called to take up that torch and continue the work of Jesus today!

READ THE TEXT: ACTS 1:1-5

1 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach,
2 until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 3 He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.



⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

1. What is the purpose of the book of Acts? How does Luke introduce us to the point of the book?
2. What is the difference between the Baptism of John and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? Take a look at Luke 3:15-17 and Acts 2:37-40, what does Peter offer that John didn't?

APPLY THE TEXT

3. How does the continued work of Jesus in the world change how you think about/serve in the church?
4. What is the legacy that you want to leave behind? How will your faith make that impact?
5. What does it look like to rely on the Holy Spirit to share your faith? How can you do that this week?

SHARE & PRAY

1. As we study the book of Acts, think carefully about 1 or 2 people that you would like to actively share the gospel with. Share them with your life group and hold one another accountable in prayer and support.
2. In light of Acts 1:1-5, pray for one another that we would be actively sharing the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection and praise God for the gift of the Holy Spirit who is always with you.

