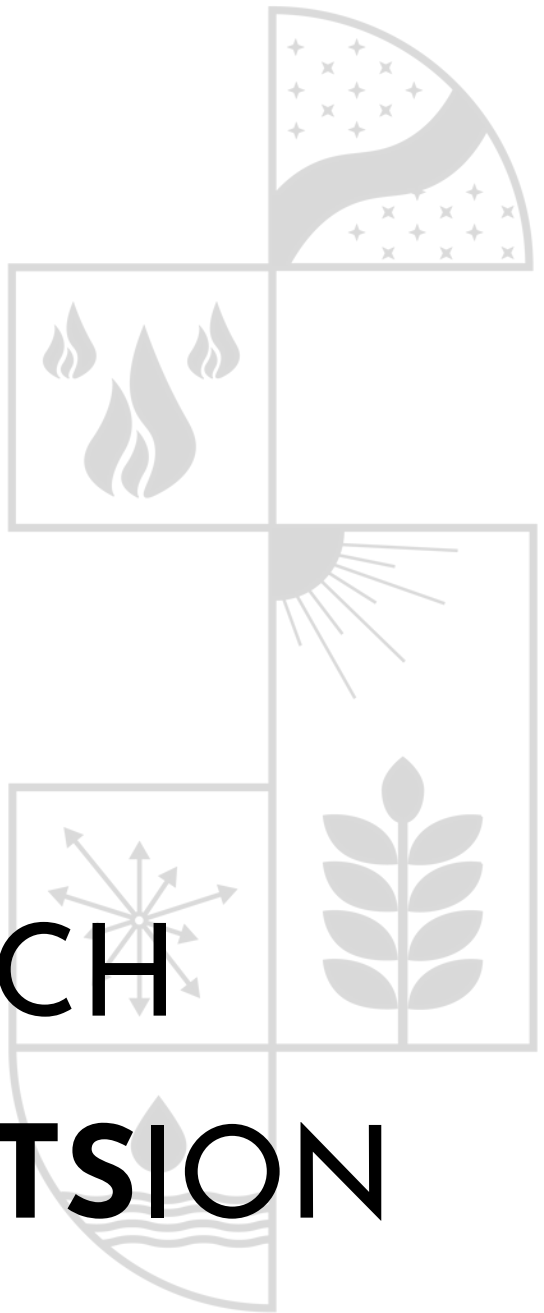


THE
CHURCH
IN **ACT**SION

THE CHURCH IN ACTION

READING PLAN



INTRODUCTION

Here is the **ACTSION** PLAN. Among the many individual goals we may have for ourselves, here is one we can strive for together as a church: To be a people of action. Not just people who love the Bible, but people who *live* the Bible. Not just people who have found Jesus, but people who *follow* Jesus. One way to grow as an active church is to observe the Church in Acts. As we spend the next 28 weeks reading and learning about how the church began, and how it began to *thrive*, may we too see the Spirit move in us today like He moved in them back then. We pray that you'll spend time each week in a chapter of Acts individually, and then join us collectively as we hear that chapter of Acts preached from our pastors. This is our **ACTSION** PLAN.

THE ACTION PLAN

Day 1 | READ the chapter of Acts at least twice. Get a good overview of the context.

Day 2 | OBSERVE the first part of the passage provided. Make any notes of what you see happening in the passage. Write down questions, or make note of interesting observations that you see. What details, names, places, customs, or cultural factors stand out? What words or phrases are noteworthy?

Day 3 | OBSERVE the second part of the passage provided. Just like on Day 2, you can make any notes of what you see happening in the passage.

Day 4 | INTERPRET the chapter. Keeping in mind the guidelines provided, how do you interpret the chapter, and how would you summarize key ideas in your own words? What do you think the author meant for the original audience, and how do you think God wants us to understand it in today's context?

Day 5 | APPLY the passage to your specific context. After reading the passage again, and reviewing your observations and interpretation, where in your life do you see this lived out? Spend time praying and asking God to help you live out the truths of this chapter.

Questions? Scan this code or submit questions about the chapter at www.southbaycommunitychurch.com/actionplan.

Your questions may not be answered personally, but they might be addressed in the weekend sermon!



INTERPRETATION GUIDELINES

When interpreting the Book of Acts, here are some guidelines to keep in mind.

Genre

Recognize that Acts is primarily *historical narrative*, not a didactic (teaching) or doctrinal book. It recounts events as they happened, focusing on the growth and spread of the early Church after Jesus' ascension. They tell us what happened then (description) and not necessarily what must happen now (prescription).

Context

- *Historical Context*: Understand the historical background of the text. What was happening at the time? Who was the author, and to whom was he writing?
- *Literary Context*: Read passages in context. What comes before and after the verse? How does it fit within the chapter, book, and Bible as a whole?
- *Cultural Context*: Consider the culture of the time and place in which the book of Acts was written. How did the people of that time think and live? How do these customs influence the message?
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Scripture Interprets Scripture

Let clearer passages shed light on more difficult or obscure ones. Use the Bible to interpret itself rather than isolating a single verse. Cross references, commentaries, and other resources may help point to other related Scriptures.

INTERPRETATION GUIDELINES

Author's Intent

Seek to understand the intention of the human author as he was inspired by the Holy Spirit. What was the original message the author intended to convey to their audience? In the book of Acts, we know that Luke was describing the geographical and spiritual spread of the Gospel, from Jerusalem to Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8).

Grammar and Syntax

Pay close attention to the language, grammar, and structure of the text. Meaning can often hinge on the original languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek), so consulting a commentary or a concordance can be helpful.

Theological Principles for Today

- Determine the historical truth that was true then and there (in history).
- Determine the timeless theological truth that is true at all times and in all places.
- Determine how that truth applies to life here and now (modern day). What does this passage teach about God, humanity, sin, salvation, or the church?

For resources to help you in interpreting the book of Acts, please scan the QR code or go to www.southbaycommunitychurch.com/actionplan.



READING PLAN

Use the schedule below to follow along in the **ACTSION PLAN!**
Please refer to the previous pages for a detailed description of each day and for our interpretation guidelines.

WEEK 1

Acts 1

Day 1 - Read Acts 1
Day 2 - Acts 1:1-11 observations
Day 3 - Acts 1:12-26 observations
Day 4 - Acts 1 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 2

Acts 2

Day 1 - Read Acts 2
Day 2 - Acts 2:1-28 observations
Day 3 - Acts 2:29-47 observations
Day 4 - Acts 2 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 3

Acts 3

Day 1 - Read Acts 3
Day 2 - Acts 3:1-11 observations
Day 3 - Acts 3:12-26 observations
Day 4 - Acts 3 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 4

Acts 4

Day 1 - Read Acts 4
Day 2 - Acts 4:1-22 observations
Day 3 - Acts 4:23-37 observations
Day 4 - Acts 4 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 5

Acts 5

Day 1 - Read Acts 5
Day 2 - Acts 5:1-11 observations
Day 3 - Acts 5:12-42 observations
Day 4 - Acts 5 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 6

Acts 6

Day 1 - Read Acts 6
Day 2 - Acts 6:1-7 observations
Day 3 - Acts 6:8-15 observations
Day 4 - Acts 6 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 7

Acts 7

Day 1 - Read Acts 7
Day 2 - Acts 7:1-29 observations
Day 3 - Acts 7:30-60 observations
Day 4 - Acts 7 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 8

Acts 8

Day 1 - Read Acts 8
Day 2 - Acts 8:1-25 observations
Day 3 - Acts 8:26-40 observations
Day 4 - Acts 8 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

READING PLAN

Use the schedule below to follow along in the **ACTSION PLAN!**
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WEEK 9

Acts 9

Day 1 - Read Acts 9
Day 2 - Acts 9:1-19 observations
Day 3 - Acts 9:20-43 observations
Day 4 - Acts 9 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 10

Acts 10

Day 1 - Read Acts 10
Day 2 - Acts 10:1-33 observations
Day 3 - Acts 10:34-48 observations
Day 4 - Acts 10 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 11

Acts 11

Day 1 - Read Acts 11
Day 2 - Acts 11:1-18 observations
Day 3 - Acts 11:19-30 observations
Day 4 - Acts 11 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 12

Acts 12

Day 1 - Read Acts 12
Day 2 - Acts 12:1-19 observations
Day 3 - Acts 12:20-25 observations
Day 4 - Acts 12 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 13

Acts 13

Day 1 - Read Acts 13
Day 2 - Acts 13:1-25 observations
Day 3 - Acts 13:26-52 observations
Day 4 - Acts 13 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 14

Acts 14

Day 1 - Read Acts 14
Day 2 - Acts 14:1-18 observations
Day 3 - Acts 14:19-28 observations
Day 4 - Acts 14 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 15

Acts 15

Day 1 - Read Acts 15
Day 2 - Acts 15:1-21 observations
Day 3 - Acts 15:22-41 observations
Day 4 - Acts 15 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 16

Acts 16

Day 1 - Read Acts 16
Day 2 - Acts 16:1-24 observations
Day 3 - Acts 16:25-40 observations
Day 4 - Acts 16 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

READING PLAN

Use the schedule below to follow along in the **ACTSION PLAN!**
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WEEK 17

Acts 17

Day 1 - Read Acts 17
Day 2 - Acts 17:1-21 observations
Day 3 - Acts 17:22-34 observations
Day 4 - Acts 17 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 18

Acts 18

Day 1 - Read Acts 18
Day 2 - Acts 18:1-17 observations
Day 3 - Acts 18:18-28 observations
Day 4 - Acts 18 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 19

Acts 19

Day 1 - Read Acts 19
Day 2 - Acts 19:1-20 observations
Day 3 - Acts 19:21-41 observations
Day 4 - Acts 19 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 20

Acts 20

Day 1 - Read Acts 20
Day 2 - Acts 20:1-16 observations
Day 3 - Acts 20:17-38 observations
Day 4 - Acts 20 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 21

Acts 21

Day 1 - Read Acts 21
Day 2 - Acts 21:1-26 observations
Day 3 - Acts 21:27-40 observations
Day 4 - Acts 21 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 22

Acts 22

Day 1 - Read Acts 22
Day 2 - Acts 22:10-21 observations
Day 3 - Acts 22:22-30 observations
Day 4 - Acts 22 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 23

Acts 23

Day 1 - Read Acts 23
Day 2 - Acts 23:1-22 observations
Day 3 - Acts 23:23-35 observations
Day 4 - Acts 23 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 24

Acts 24

Day 1 - Read Acts 24
Day 2 - Acts 24:1-21 observations
Day 3 - Acts 24:22-27 observations
Day 4 - Acts 24 interpretations
Day 5 - Application and Prayer

READING PLAN

Use the schedule below to follow along in the **ACTSION PLAN!**
Please refer to the previous pages for a detailed description of each day and for our interpretation guidelines.

WEEK 25

Acts 25

- Day 1 - Read Acts 25
- Day 2 - Acts 25:1-12 observations
- Day 3 - Acts 25:13-27 observations
- Day 4 - Acts 25 interpretations
- Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 26

Acts 26

- Day 1 - Read Acts 26
- Day 2 - Acts 26:1-23 observations
- Day 3 - Acts 26:24-32 observations
- Day 4 - Acts 26 interpretations
- Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 27

Acts 27

- Day 1 - Read Acts 27
- Day 2 - Acts 27:1-26 observations
- Day 3 - Acts 27:27-44 observations
- Day 4 - Acts 27 interpretations
- Day 5 - Application and Prayer

WEEK 28

Acts 28

- Day 1 - Read Acts 28
- Day 2 - Acts 28:1-10 observations
- Day 3 - Acts 28:11-31 observations
- Day 4 - Acts 28 interpretations
- Day 5 - Application and Prayer