



BRIDGEPOINTE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH



DEVOTIONAL GUIDE



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INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ACTS:

The New Testament begins with four books called Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Each provides a different perspective on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The book of Acts picks up where the Gospels end. In the opening scene of Acts, Jesus gathers with his disciples to give final instructions before he sends them out with a mission and ascends into heaven. The rest of the book tells the story of these disciples spreading the message of Jesus by making disciples and starting churches.

The author of Acts is also the writer of the Gospel of Luke. It is most likely that a Roman official named Theophilus employed Luke, a well-respected physician and historian, to investigate Jesus and provide an account. Luke 1:3-4 reads, “With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.” Luke and Acts, therefore, are the product of meticulous research and careful examination, to provide an orderly account of the life of Jesus (in Luke) and the spread of his message (in Acts) so that there may be certainty in regard to faith in Jesus.

The book of Acts gives powerful insight and practical instruction for Christians today who, like the first disciples, are sent by Jesus into the world to spread the message of Good News to all people.

THE FIRST 15:

Can you believe that the Creator of the Universe wants to spend time with you? God loves you and wants you to know him. If we're honest, though, spending time with God is often the furthest thing from our minds. What if there was a simple way to change this?

Would you be willing to spend the first 15 minutes of everyday with God? It may sound intimidating, but this simple commitment could change everything about your day. Take the First 15 Challenge by committing to spend the first 15 minutes of each day with God, using this devotional guide.

It may take some discipline to get up a few minutes earlier or choose to do this before you turn on the TV or go online. But there is no more powerful earthly experience than enjoying a relationship with the Giver of Hope. The best way to grow in your relationship with God is to spend time with him.

It is believed that it takes 21 days to create a habit. By taking the First 15 Challenge and using this guide, you can create a daily rhythm of time with God. Stay committed to it and keep going. And, when you have opportunity, share with others what God is saying to you through your experience of reading and prayer.

HOW TO USE THE DEVOTIONAL GUIDE:

Reading the Bible can be intimidating. This booklet offers a simple approach that will help you get the most out of your time in God's Word. It is always a good idea to begin by asking God to help you be receptive to what He wants to say to you. This resource is set up for you to read one chapter from Acts each day and then use the following structure to guide your conversation with God. There is room on each page for you to write your responses.

- Scripture: Write the Scripture reference for the passage you are studying.
- Observation: Make one observation from the passage.
- Application: Write how this applies to your life.
- Prayer: Talk to God about what you have read.

Memory Verse: Each week has a memory verse that corresponds to Sunday's message. Spend the last couple minutes of your devotion reading, repeating, and remembering the memory verse. By memorizing Scripture, we are able to take God's Word with us wherever we go.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 2

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 3

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 4

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 5

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 7

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 8

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 9

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 10

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 3:15

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 12

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 10:15

The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 13

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 10:15

The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 14

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 10:15

The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 15

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 10:15

The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 16

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 10:15

The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 17

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 10:15

The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

SERMON: SENT TO BE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

SCRIPTURE: Acts 16:6-15

DATE: June 22nd, 2014

NOTES:

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 18

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Listen online at: www.bridgpointchristian.com/media

Memory Verse: John 14:16-17a

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 19

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: John 14:16-17a

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 20

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: John 14:16-17a

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 21

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: John 14:16-17a

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 22

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: John 14:16-17a

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 24

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 20:24

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 25

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 20:24

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 26

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 20:24

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 27

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 20:24

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 28

OBSERVATION:

APPLICATION:

PRAYER:

Memory Verse: Acts 20:24

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.

NOW WHAT?

Congratulations! You finished reading the book of Acts and that’s worth celebrating, even if it took a few extra days or you missed a couple chapters. Hopefully, your time of reading and prayer is helping you know God and grow in your relationship with him.

Now that you are finished with Acts, you may be wondering what’s next. It is easy to lose momentum in your daily rhythm if you don’t quickly decide what you will choose to read and study next. Your relationship with God is too important to regress back into inconsistent time together.

First, you need to decide what part of the Bible you will read. Here are some suggestions to choose from:

- The Gospel of John is a biography about Jesus written by one of his closest friends. This is a great book to read if you want to know Jesus better.
- Romans is a letter written by Paul (the missionary from Acts) to Christians in Rome. This may be the clearest explanation of the Good News of Jesus and this book shows how we should respond.
- Genesis is the first book of the Bible and it tells of the beginning of God’s plan to redeem the world from sin and its effects.
- Proverbs was written by King Solomon, a man whom God chose to bless with great wisdom and understanding. This book is a collection of wisdom axioms from the wisest man in history, except for Jesus of course. The writings of Solomon still have profound insight for relationships, money, time management, parenting, overcoming sin, friendship, and more.

After you decide on which book to read, commit to reading one chapter a day. We recommend continuing to use the SOAP approach to Bible reading. This practice is most beneficial if you use a journal. Go and buy a composition notebook or a pretty journal or whatever makes you excited to sit down and write in it. Keep spending your First 15 with God each day. When you finish your next book of the Bible, choose another and keep going!

