



# ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

How God Turned a Band of Nobodies into a Movement for Everybody

*How did a handful of ordinary people become ten thousand followers of Jesus in the year following his public execution? How did his movement gain so much momentum, especially as ten of the eleven charter members were crucified, burned, or stoned to death? How did ten thousand Christians become one million by the second century, and 3.3 billion today?*

*Written in the middle of the first century, The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of how Christianity spread like wildfire across the Roman Empire and beyond. For 25 weeks we will journey through Acts in pursuit of the truth behind history's most consequential movement.*

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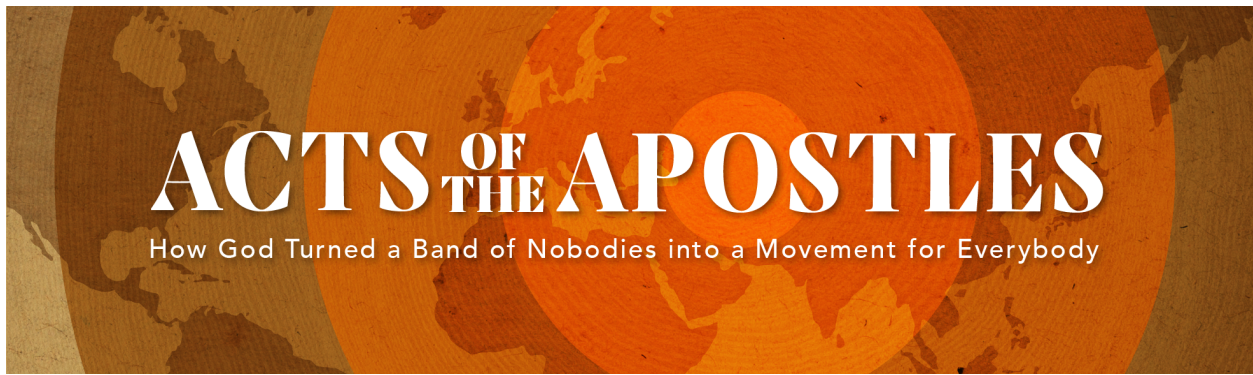
**Begin with reflections from [Justin Brierley's sermon on Sunday, September 24th.](#) If everyone watched the sermon you can spend your entire time sharing thoughts from Sunday.**

What surprised or encouraged you from Justin's sermon on the state of the Church and the surprising rebirth of faith among atheists in the last decade?

Why are stories so important? What narratives control your view of the world and yourself?

How can we do a better job of sharing the Story of Jesus with our friends, family, and coworkers in a way that draws them into faith?

Justin ended with this quote from G.K Chesterton "Christendom has had a series of revolutions and in each one of them Christianity has died. Christianity has died many times and risen again; for it had a God who knew the way out of the grave." How do you interpret this quote, and how do you see the Church rising again to meet the needs of our day?



## **Discussion Guide: Week 3**

### **Acts 2:14-24**

Last week we talked about the Power of the Holy Spirit and waiting for His presence among us. A week after this conversation has anything changed in your faith? Have you found yourself more aware or focused on the Holy Spirit?

In his sermon in Jerusalem the Apostle Peter quotes from Joel 2:28-32, a passage that prophesies about the pouring out of the Holy Spirit among all believers. Read this passage, what parts of this prophecy stand out to you?

Last week we focused on Speaking in tongues, but this week the passage mentions prophecy, dreams, and visions. How have you experienced these types of spiritual gifts?

We have been in Acts for three weeks now, what theme or ideas have been most impactful to you so far? What has been most challenging or convicting?