

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.

Discussion Guide: Week 6 Acts 4:1-12

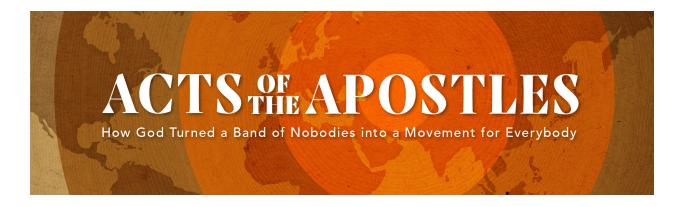
How does the statement "Jesus is the only way to salvation sit with you? Why?

Do you, or your friends, have trouble accepting the exclusivity of Christianity? Can christianity coexist with other faith claims and worldviews? Why or why not?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:23

How is not just Jesus, but Christ Crucified, a stumbling block? Why do some, especially the religious, struggle with worshiping a savior who was sacrificed on a cross?

How is it not just Jesus, but Christ Crucified, foolishness? Why do some, especially in our wider culture, struggle accepting Jesus is the name above every name?



How is Jesus' statement "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" offensive?

In Luke 19:10 Jesus says, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." You cannot be saved unless you first realize you are lost. Why is an understanding of our own inadequacy essential to accepting God's free gift of grace?

Reflection questions

If you have been saved, how were you lost before Christ? What did Jesus save you from?

If you would still consider yourself lost. What or who do you need to be saved from?

John Wesley once said "You have one business on earth - to save souls" If you have already been found by Jesus, who do you need to share this good news with this week?

