

Reading the Bible – Acts

Sunday May 6, 2012

Acts 6:1-7

Acts as Model?

- Baptism – Infants; Believers Only
- Leaders – Appointed; Congregational Vote; Casting Lots
- Structure – Deacons, Elders, Bishops, Apostles
- Should Christians ...
 - Sell their property and live in Community?
 - Expect miracles continually?

Movement in Acts

Summary Statements

- Acts 1:8
- Acts 6:7; 9:31; 12:24; 16:4; 19:20

Overall Movement

- Peter → Paul
- Jerusalem → Rome
- Primarily Jewish → Primarily Gentile

Not ...

- Apostles' Lives, Church Structure, Church History

Reading Acts

- **Less** ... Model to Follow
- **More** ... Later Act in Same Play
- **Movement** ... Still Heading in Same Direction
- **Reflection** ... A Step Deeper than Mimicking

First – Try to Hear the Story

- Movement of Gospel by Leading of Spirit

Then – Ask What it Means Now

- Principle, Heart, Motive, Direction

Reading the Bible

Over the next few weeks we will examine several kinds of literature that are found in the Bible. The hope is that we can learn some practical ways to read the Bible better.

In addition to the teachings on Sunday morning, there are some small groups that will meet during the week. These groups will provide an opportunity to practice what we are learning on Sundays in a supportive low pressure environment.

Here is an outline of the kinds of literature we will examine, and the Scripture passages we will use to “practice” in some of the groups that will be meeting.

Apr 23-27	Letter	1Co 11:17-34
Apr 30 – May 4	OT Narrative	Gen 15
May 7-11	Acts	Act 6:1-7
May 14-18	Gospel	Mar 8:27-9:1
May 21-25	Parable	Mat 13:1-23
May 28 – Jun 1	Law	Lev 19:1-18
Jun 4-8	Psalm	Psa 24
Jun 11-15	Prophet	Amo 5

For Further Reading

Gordon D. Fee, Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* [Third Edition]. Zondervan. 2003.