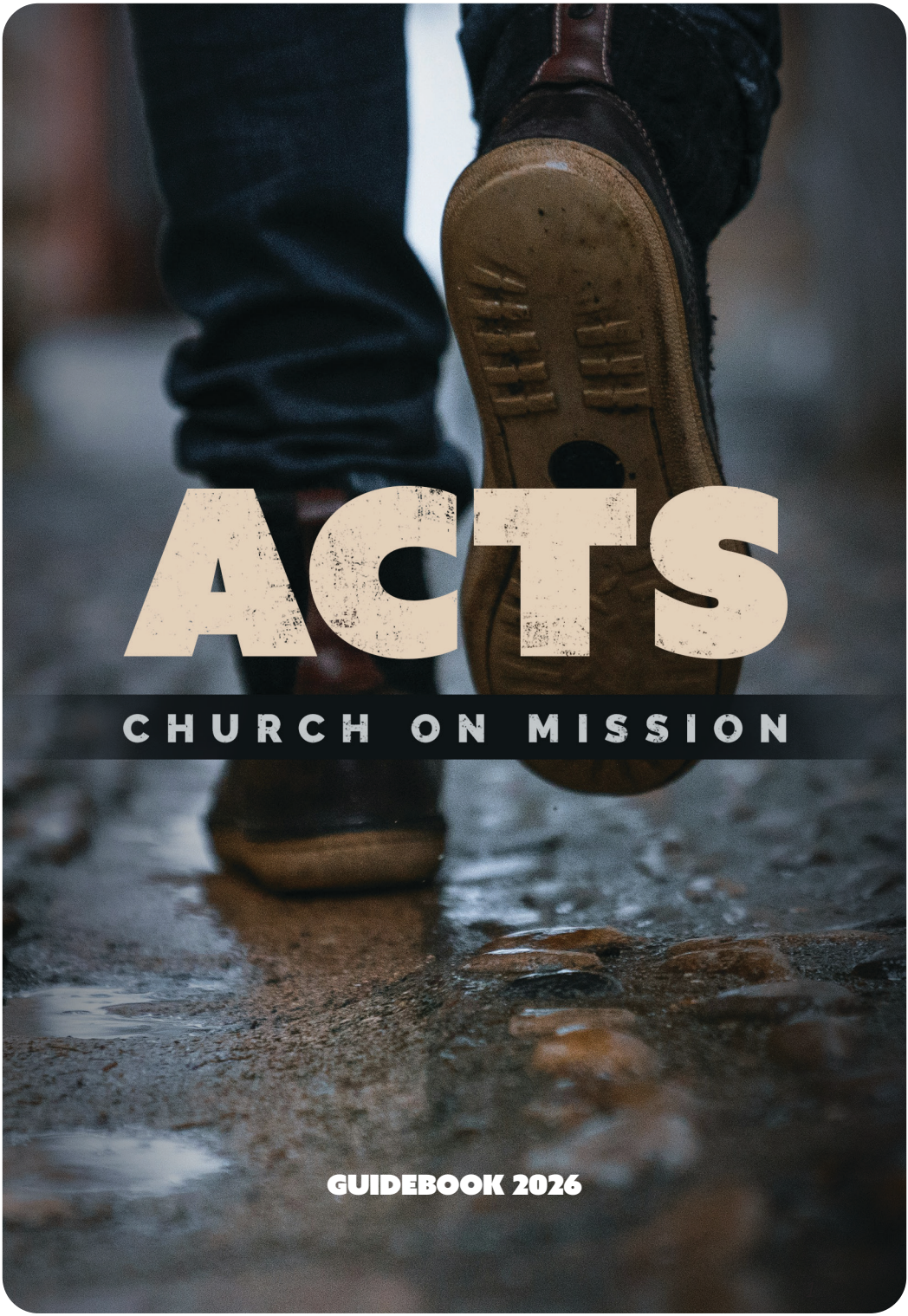

ACTS
CHURCH ON MISSION
GUIDEBOOK 2026

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Term 4 | 2026

WEEK OF OCT 4-8

Growth Group Re-Start



WEEKEND OCT 16-18

Kids Weekender



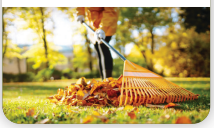
SUNDAY OCT 25

Guess Who's Coming to Lunch



SATURDAY OCT 31

Petrie Working Bee



SUNDAY NOV 1

Young Adults All In



SUNDAY NOV 15

MTS & Trainee Celebration BBQ



REACH WEEK

1ST WEEK IN DECEMBER

QUT CHRISTIANS+

ON MISSION WITH US



WEDNESDAY DEC 2

God on Tap



SUNDAY DEC 6

Warner Community BBQ



FRIDAY DEC 11

Youth Breakup



SUNDAY DEC 13

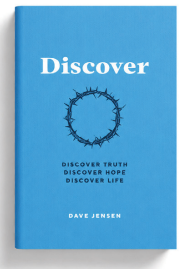
Young Adults All In



SUNDAY DEC 25

CHRISTMAS DAY





OUR NEXT DISCOVER COURSE

WILL START MID-FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR

RG

Retirees Group

First Wed in the Month



ACTS

CHURCH ON MISSION

Who doesn't like a road trip? Who doesn't enjoy the opportunity to explore new destinations?! So, let's get on board with the apostle Paul's Mediterranean travel plans!.... except.... what drives Paul is not dreams of a relaxing holiday and exotic new places, but rather, the gospel of Jesus Christ!

Welcome to this growth group series 'Acts, Church on Mission'. Though we're taking the story up from Acts 15, at Christ Central we've been making our way through Luke's second volume (his first being what we call 'Luke's gospel') since 2024. So let's be reminded of a few things:

1. This is the story of the apostles, but more to the point, it's the continuing story of the powerful work of Jesus and the Holy Spirit:

> *In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. Acts 1:1-2*

2. Jesus has His unstoppable plans for the gospel to go beyond 'ground zero' of Jerusalem, to the far reaches of God's world:

> *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8*

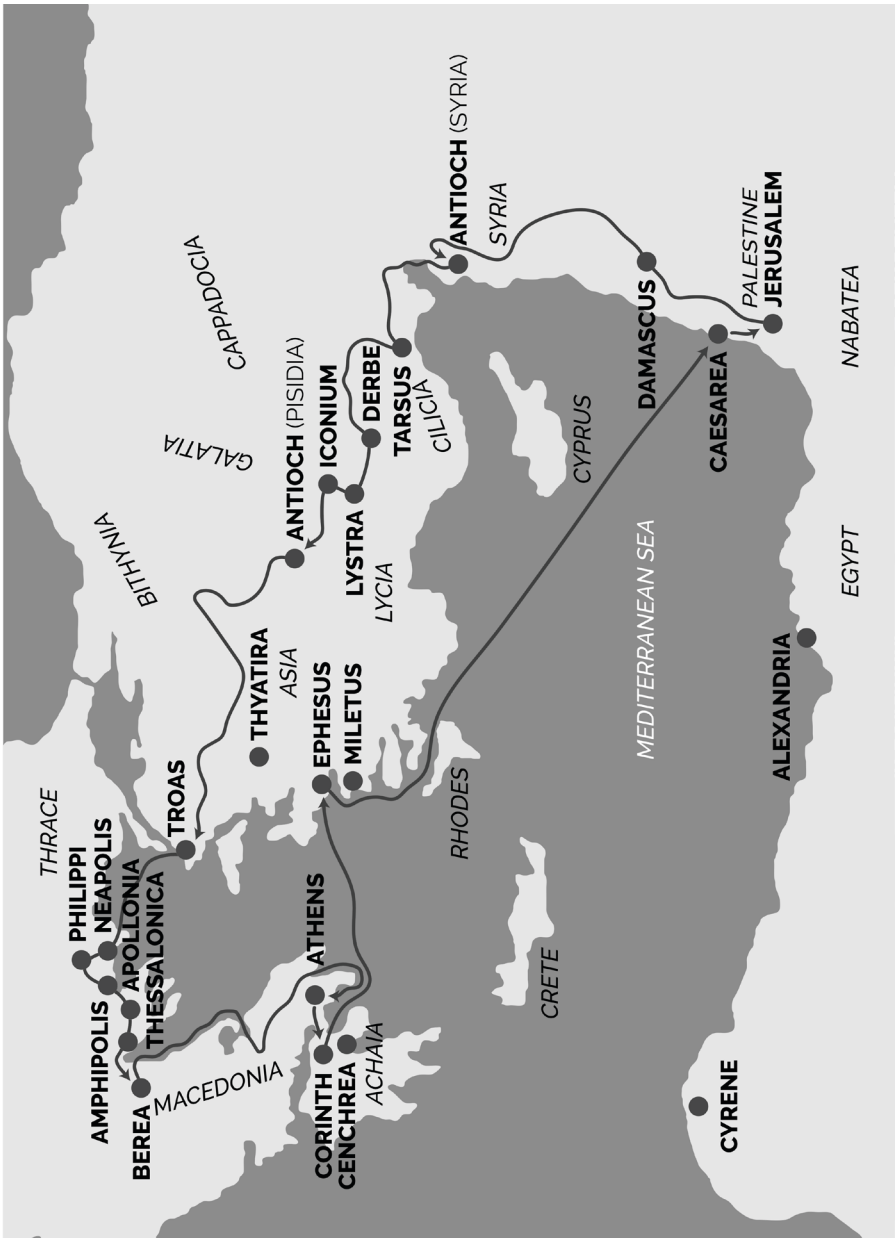
3. With the spread of the gospel, there has been a shift. The mission to the Jews has also become the mission to the Gentiles. With this development, there's been an accompanying shift in focus from the apostle Peter to the Apostle Paul:

> *But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man [Saul/Paul] is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." Acts 9:15-16*

4. The new missionary sending base became the multi-ethnic city of Antioch and it was from here that Paul and Barnabas went on their first missionary journey:

> *Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. Acts 13:1-3*

And so we come to Acts 15, which is the sending-off point for Paul's second missionary journey. As we'll see in our first study, Paul's second trip may not appear to have the most auspicious looking beginning, but God has his unstoppable plans! We will see in this missionary work of Paul (and his friends), that the Lord will take the gospel onwards and all barriers will be broken down – spiritual forces, political authorities, class and gender. The events of these chapters are meant to fire our own hearts for God's mission. Do we believe that the gospel is still powerful today? Are we outwardly looking? Are we willing to do costly things to see more people come to faith in Jesus? May we all be deeply encouraged and challenged as we explore through these chapters of Acts and discover that to be a church, is to be a church on mission!



In Luke's travel diary (the book of Acts), Paul's second missionary journey goes from Acts 15:36 – Acts 18:22.

STUDY 1

THE UNITED GOSPEL?

ACTS 15:36-16:5

EXPLORING TOGETHER

In our Growth Groups, we've been using what's known as the 'Swedish Method'. It's a way of giving us time to process what's there in the passage and to get discussion going on what we've observed. Follow the directions below and note down some of your own observations and thoughts. Then we'll discuss what you've found!

Light Bulb. Write down any interesting observations you get from the passage. This includes things that stand out, repeated ideas/words or something you found unusual.

Question Mark. Any questions from the text or an issue or point that doesn't make sense from the passage. Questions are great! They encourage us to think a bit harder about the passage and its implications. They also give us a chance to help each other understand Scripture better.

Arrow. Note down any reflections on things you found challenging or applicable to you. The bible addresses our heads, hearts and hands, or if you like, our thoughts, attitudes and actions so reflect on whether the passage addresses any of these.

Read Acts 15:36-16:5 and take some time to fill in the sections below.







DIGGING DEEPER

1. Chapter 15:1-25 (the Jerusalem Council) marks a great moment of unity for Jesus' people as they make sense of this new movement and the reception it has amongst the gentiles (nations). But the chapter ends with a division between two significant figures who were instrumental in achieving this united outcome – two gospel partners. What details are given about this disagreement?

2. What is the outcome for both Paul and Barnabas and how does it relate to the initial desire in verse 36?

3. In what way is there unity and disunity between Paul and Barnabas? Therefore, why record this after such a triumphant moment?

4. This passage gives lots of detail about Timothy and his family. List what details we learn about Timothy and his reputation in 16:1-5.

5. For context to this passage it is helpful to read Galatians 5:2-6 and Acts 15:4-11; 19-21. From this context discuss how we can understand Paul's decision to circumcise Timothy. Is Paul undermining the conclusion of the very letter he is taking to these churches (Acts 16:4 cf. Acts 15:22)? How does Timothy's specific case (see question above) help us reconcile these conflicting decisions?

ACTS & OUR CHURCH

1. Luke gives very little judgement on the disagreement between Paul and Barnabas, in fact his recounting of the events is very neutral. How does this episode model for us disagreement between even close gospel partners? What attitudes might we need to change in ourselves to follow Paul and Barnabas' model?

2. When we are discouraged by hard things between Christians, how can we be encouraged to keep going in gospel work from this passage?

3. What are freedoms and aspects of our lives that might get in the way of our gospel proclamation/evangelism? What might we need to change or give up in order to proclaim the good news to the people around us?



PRAYER



This study was written by Josh Dickinson



BIBLE TALK NOTES

Sunday 11 of October

ACTS 15:36-16:5

STUDY 2

CLOSED DOORS, OPEN HEARTS

ACTS 16:6-15

EXPLORING TOGETHER

In our Growth Groups, we've been using what's known as the 'Swedish Method'. It's a way of giving us time to process what's there in the passage and to get discussion going on what we've observed. Follow the directions below and note down some of your own observations and thoughts. Then we'll discuss what you've found!

Light Bulb. Write down any interesting observations you get from the passage. This includes things that stand out, repeated ideas/words or something you found unusual.

Question Mark. Any questions from the text or an issue or point that doesn't make sense from the passage. Questions are great! They encourage us to think a bit harder about the passage and its implications. They also give us a chance to help each other understand Scripture better.

Arrow. Note down any reflections on things you found challenging or applicable to you. The bible addresses our heads, hearts and hands, or if you like, our thoughts, attitudes and actions so reflect on whether the passage addresses any of these.

Read Acts 16:6-15 and take some time to fill in the sections below.









DIGGING DEEPER

1. What do the following verses teach about who ultimately is directing this mission?

V6-7

V9-10

V14

2. As you consider verses 6-15 what encourages you about how Paul and his coworkers execute God's mission?

3. How do we see that God is at work within Lydia?

4. Notice what's actually happened by v15: no synagogue in the city, a small group of women by a river, one named convert who wasn't even a native of Philippi. Why might Luke want us to see that the gospel in Europe began in such an unimpressive way?

ACTS & OUR CHURCH

1. Has there been a time you sought an opportunity for ministry didn't come off? How can Paul's example, as well as what happened here, help you in moments like that?

2. "Come over and help us." Where do we see people in our suburb, workplaces, or friendships who need this same kind of help? What would it practically look like for us to "come over"?

3. Lydia's response to God's grace was to open her home. What keeps you from opening your home to others and is there thinking or habits you'd need to change to see this happen? What difference does opening our homes make?

PRAYER

This study was written by Kirk Zylstra



BIBLE TALK NOTES

Sunday 18 of October

ACTS 16:6-15

STUDY 3

FREEDOM IN CHAINS

ACTS 16:16-40

EXPLORING TOGETHER

In our Growth Groups, we've been using what's known as the 'Swedish Method'. It's a way of giving us time to process what's there in the passage and to get discussion going on what we've observed. Follow the directions below and note down some of your own observations and thoughts. Then we'll discuss what you've found!

Light Bulb. Write down any interesting observations you get from the passage. This includes things that stand out, repeated ideas/words or something you found unusual.

Question Mark. Any questions from the text or an issue or point that doesn't make sense from the passage. Questions are great! They encourage us to think a bit harder about the passage and its implications. They also give us a chance to help each other understand Scripture better.

Arrow. Note down any reflections on things you found challenging or applicable to you. The bible addresses our heads, hearts and hands, or if you like, our thoughts, attitudes and actions so reflect on whether the passage addresses any of these.

Read Acts 16:16-40 and take some time to fill in the sections below.









DIGGING DEEPER

1. How do Paul and Silas bring freedom, outside the jail, and then demonstrate a different kind of freedom even once they're in it?

2. How does the Philippian jailor demonstrate a kind of bondage, though he's in a position of power? How do we see his freedom once he comes to know Jesus? What do you think it is about the gospel that he receives, that brings such freedom?

3. In Philippi we see three new converts – a dealer in purple cloth (v14), a slave girl (v16) and a jailor (v23). (We assume, since Lydia and the jailor believed, that the slave girl is grouped with them as another believer.) How would you describe this new church that God is forming? What encourages you about that?

4. How do Paul and Silas demonstrate a kind of shrewdness in vv35-40?

ACTS & OUR CHURCH

1. Can you think of a time when you have known setback, but still experienced the freedom and joy of the gospel?

2. In what way do people today experience bondage or loss of hope? How might we bring the gospel to those moments?

3. The gospel reaches a wealthy businesswoman, an exploited slave girl, and a Roman jailer. That's quite the mix! Where might we be quietly narrowing who we expect the gospel to work on? And what might it mean practically, to be a church that loves well a mixture of people?

4. What might it look like for us to demonstrate shrewdness even as we are ready to give up every right, if necessary, for the sake of the gospel (1 Cor 9:19-23)?



PRAYER

This study was written by Kirk Zylstra



BIBLE TALK NOTES

Sunday 25 of October

ACTS 16:16-40

STUDY 4

THE UPSETTING GOSPEL

ACTS 17:1-15

EXPLORING TOGETHER

In our Growth Groups, we've been using what's known as the 'Swedish Method'. It's a way of giving us time to process what's there in the passage and to get discussion going on what we've observed. Follow the directions below and note down some of your own observations and thoughts. Then we'll discuss what you've found!

Light Bulb. Write down any interesting observations you get from the passage. This includes things that stand out, repeated ideas/words or something you found unusual.

Question Mark. Any questions from the text or an issue or point that doesn't make sense from the passage. Questions are great! They encourage us to think a bit harder about the passage and its implications. They also give us a chance to help each other understand Scripture better.

Arrow. Note down any reflections on things you found challenging or applicable to you. The bible addresses our heads, hearts and hands, or if you like, our thoughts, attitudes and actions so reflect on whether the passage addresses any of these.

Read Acts 17:1-15 and take some time to fill in the sections below.









DIGGING DEEPER

1. The word for 'explaining' in v3 is used a number of times in Luke 24 when Jesus opens the eyes of the disciples to see their Lord and understand the Scriptures (Luke 24:31-32, 45). What do you think we're supposed to take away from this?

2. In what way do you think the accusation against Paul's teaching (v.6-7) is both true and false?

Helpful passages for this discussion include: Matthew 22:15-22; Romans 13:1-7; Philippians 2:10-11; 1 Thessalonians 1:8-10.

3. How would you describe the contrast between the responses of the Thessalonians and the Bereans? Make sure you spend time looking at the elements of what makes the Bereans' response (v.11) such a positive example for us.

4. Last week we saw in the city of Philippi that as the gospel goes out, the Lord is bringing into his church a diversity of people across various classes and backgrounds. How do the events in Thessalonica and Berea build on that picture?

ACTS & OUR CHURCH

1. What opportunities do you have to explain the Scriptures to others? Share stories of how you are seeking to carry on the mission of bringing the gospel to others. If that's not you currently, what do you think could be the next steps for you?

2. How would you compare yourself to the noble Bereans and their eagerness to examine the Scriptures daily?

3. The Bereans offer a beautiful example of active learning and engaging with Scripture, rather than some sort of passive reception of teaching. What practices might we take up to live out this noble Berean character? Please share any of your current practices as an encouragement to others.



PRAYER

This study was written by Garnet Swann



BIBLE TALK NOTES

Sunday 1 of November

ACTS 17:1-15

STUDY 5

THE GOSPEL IN ATHENS

ACTS 17:16-34

EXPLORING TOGETHER

In our Growth Groups, we've been using what's known as the 'Swedish Method'. It's a way of giving us time to process what's there in the passage and to get discussion going on what we've observed. Follow the directions below and note down some of your own observations and thoughts. Then we'll discuss what you've found!

Light Bulb. Write down any interesting observations you get from the passage. This includes things that stand out, repeated ideas/words or something you found unusual.

Question Mark. Any questions from the text or an issue or point that doesn't make sense from the passage. Questions are great! They encourage us to think a bit harder about the passage and its implications. They also give us a chance to help each other understand Scripture better.

Arrow. Note down any reflections on things you found challenging or applicable to you. The bible addresses our heads, hearts and hands, or if you like, our thoughts, attitudes and actions so reflect on whether the passage addresses any of these.

Read Acts 17:16-34 and take some time to fill in the sections below.









DIGGING DEEPER

Paul's audience in the Areopagus was an interesting bunch! The Epicureans believed that the gods did not care about human matters, and that life was about finding enjoying peace and avoiding pain. Meanwhile, the Stoics believed that God and the universe were the same thing, and that life was about logic and duty. Neither view had any real understanding of an afterlife, let alone a final judgement or resurrection.

1. In what ways did Paul find points of connection between his gospel message and his audience in the Areopagus?

2. In what ways did Paul refuse to compromise the message of the gospel, saying things that may even have been offensive to those in the Areopagus?

3. How does the end of the chapter show that resurrection of Jesus is really the main point of Paul's gospel presentation?

ACTS & OUR CHURCH

1. In both the Gospel of Luke and Acts (written by the same author!), repentance is the proper response to God's gracious message of salvation (Luke 3:7-9; Acts 2:38, 3:19-21). What does this say about the impact the gospel is supposed to have? How are you going in living a life of repentance?

2. The good news of Jesus is for "all people everywhere" (Acts 17:30). In John's words, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son..." (John 3:16). How can we live out this conviction individually, and as a church?

PRAYER

This study was written by Ming Ting



BIBLE TALK NOTES

Sunday 8 of November

ACTS 17:16-34

STUDY 6

THE GOSPEL IN CORINTH

ACTS 18:1-22

EXPLORING TOGETHER

In our Growth Groups, we've been using what's known as the 'Swedish Method'. It's a way of giving us time to process what's there in the passage and to get discussion going on what we've observed. Follow the directions below and note down some of your own observations and thoughts. Then we'll discuss what you've found!

Light Bulb. Write down any interesting observations you get from the passage. This includes things that stand out, repeated ideas/words or something you found unusual.

Question Mark. Any questions from the text or an issue or point that doesn't make sense from the passage. Questions are great! They encourage us to think a bit harder about the passage and its implications. They also give us a chance to help each other understand Scripture better.

Arrow. Note down any reflections on things you found challenging or applicable to you. The bible addresses our heads, hearts and hands, or if you like, our thoughts, attitudes and actions so reflect on whether the passage addresses any of these.

Read Acts 18:1-22 and take some time to fill in the sections below.







DIGGING DEEPER

1. How do Paul's words and actions in v 6 show the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies (look at Ezekiel 33:1-9)?

2. Why would Paul have felt so afraid to preach in Corinth (v 9-10), despite having already seen many people turn to the Lord?

Paul references this in his first letter to the Corinthians, when he refers back to the time spent with them here in Acts - I came to you in weakness, with great fear and trembling – 1 Corinthians 2:3

Throughout both his letters to the Corinthians, Paul makes mention of the various cultural lifestyles and attitudes prevalent in Corinth at the time, which often caused dissent and hardship within the church. It's worth considering, when thinking into why Paul may have felt afraid.

3. Look at vs. 12-17. What can be learned of Gallio's character through this passage? How would this have impacted the believers both in Corinth, and in the surrounding regions?

4. In v18, it's mentioned that Paul cut his hair because he was under a vow. At some point, he had taken a Nazarite vow – a vow of complete dedication to the Lord for a certain period of time, in which the person would refrain from any alcohol, wouldn't cut their hair or beard, and wouldn't go near the dead at all. At the end of the specified time period, the person would cut their hair off, and burn it on the altar, alongside specific sacrifices.

In this act, how did Paul show, that despite his ministry to the Gentiles, and having "shaken off his garments" (v6), he wasn't alienating the Jews?

ACTS & OUR CHURCH

1. Paul kept working as a tentmaker, in order to earn a wage, so that he could continue to go out and preach the gospel to others. Preaching the gospel was his main priority, and it was made possible through earning a living. His goal was the gospel. How can we be shifting our priorities to ensure that the gospel is furthered? What does this mean in terms of our jobs or lifestyles?

2. If you look back through the passage, you can notice lots of examples of the church encouraging each other, despite circumstances and persecution. Even though persecution doesn't look nearly so overt today, how can we still be trying to emulate the example of the Corinthian church in our own lives and church?



PRAYER

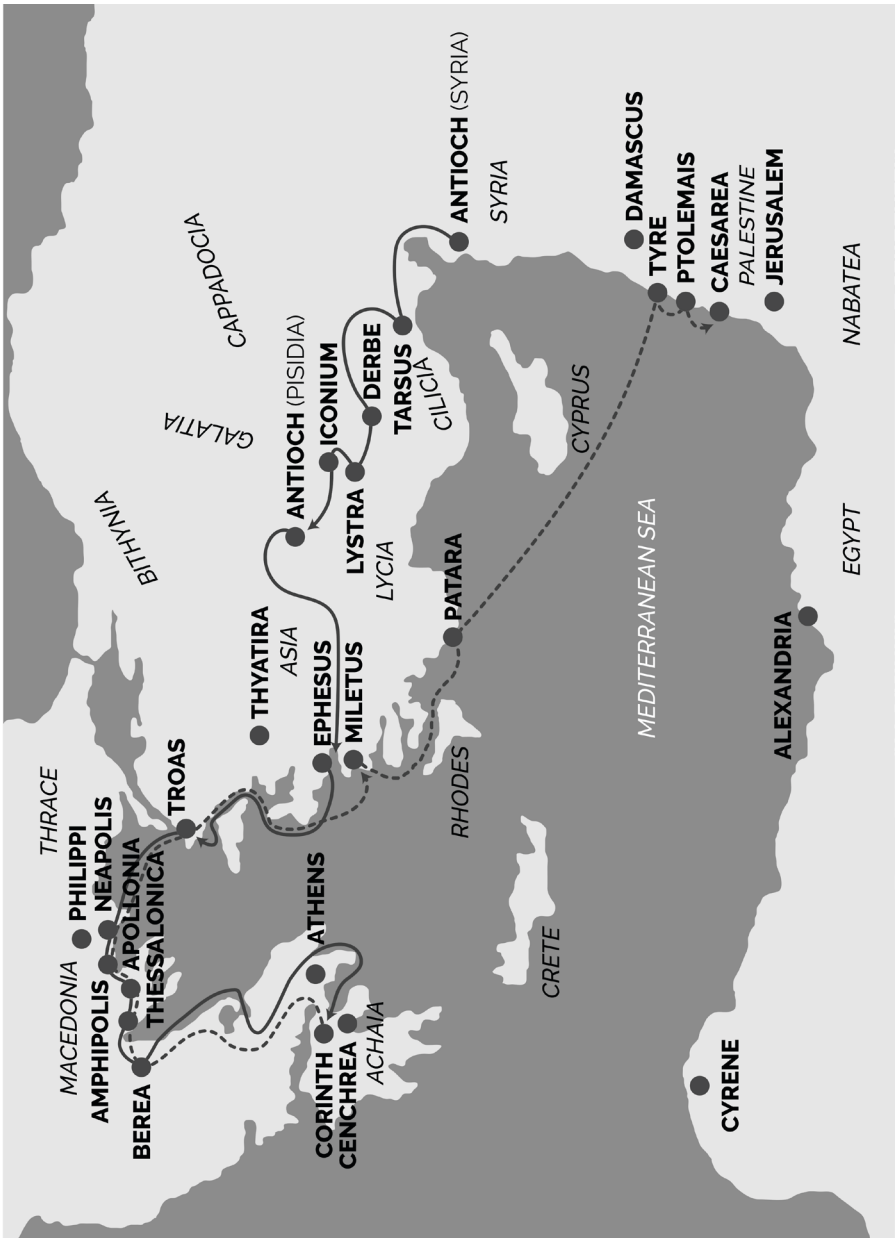
This study was written by Natalie Holmes



BIBLE TALK NOTES

Sunday 15 of November

ACTS 18:1-22



In our exploration through Luke's travel diary (the book of Acts) we've now come to Paul's third missionary journey, Acts 18:23-21:17.

STUDY 7

A MISSING INGREDIENT

ACTS 18:23-19:7

EXPLORING TOGETHER

In our Growth Groups, we've been using what's known as the 'Swedish Method'. It's a way of giving us time to process what's there in the passage and to get discussion going on what we've observed. Follow the directions below and note down some of your own observations and thoughts. Then we'll discuss what you've found!

Light Bulb. Write down any interesting observations you get from the passage. This includes things that stand out, repeated ideas/words or something you found unusual.

Question Mark. Any questions from the text or an issue or point that doesn't make sense from the passage. Questions are great! They encourage us to think a bit harder about the passage and its implications. They also give us a chance to help each other understand Scripture better.

Arrow. Note down any reflections on things you found challenging or applicable to you. The bible addresses our heads, hearts and hands, or if you like, our thoughts, attitudes and actions so reflect on whether the passage addresses any of these.

Read Acts 18:23-19:7 and take some time to fill in the sections below.









DIGGING DEEPER

1. What makes Apollos 'impressive'?

2. In their own way, how do Priscilla and Aquila act in an 'impressive' way?

3. There seems to be a 'missing piece' for certain believers in Ephesus, both for Apollos and the group of disciples. It's not straightforward to understand what's going on, but how would you describe that missing piece?

We're taught in Scripture that saving faith in Jesus and receiving the Holy Spirit are always together (eg. 1 Corinthians 12:3; Galatians 3:14; John 7:37-39). On the day of Pentecost (Acts 2) the Holy Spirit was poured out in a mighty and miraculous way (involving wind, fire, tongues/languages) and then Peter proclaims to the amazed crowd that there needs to be faith and repentance, baptism, and new life in the Spirit:

> *"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." Acts 2:38-39*

So in the events of Acts 18:23-19:7, there seems to be a difference in the pattern and order. How do we account for this? Perhaps the answer is found in seeing this moment as another significant marker-point in the unique story of Acts as the gospel first goes from Jerusalem, to all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8). We can notice a certain pattern:

1. Following the original Pentecost for the Jews in Jerusalem, there is a mini-Pentecost for the Samaritans through Philip (Acts 8:14-17).
2. Then there is another mini-Pentecost for the Gentiles through Peter (Acts 10:44-46).
3. Here is now the next mini-Pentecost, for the dispersed Jews through Paul (Acts 19:1-7).

Sometimes the events of Acts are much more *descriptive* than *prescriptive* as Luke gives us the story of how the apostles of Jesus carried the gospel forward. But it doesn't mean there's nothing for us to learn or be challenged with. At the most basic and important level, we're shown that we need the Holy Spirit! Our vision and prayer at Christ Central is to see a flood of lifelong disciples across the north edge of Brisbane and beyond. Our upcoming **Reach Week** is about helping all of us to take the next step with our friends, neighbours and family – so that ultimately, they would come to faith in Jesus and have the Holy Spirit with us!



WAYS TO SERVE IN THIS MISSION

1. Letterbox dropping or go out with the QUT Team for some friendly doorknocking.
2. Host a QUT Student for Sunday lunch. Contact Natalie Holmes.
3. Provide lunch for the QUT Team at Petrie during the week (Friday, Monday-Wednesday). Contact Natalie Holmes..
4. Help with our Free Community BBQ or be there to interact with people from our community who come along.



WHO YOU CAN INVITE

We want to get the word out about our Free Community BBQ at Dragonfly Park, Warner. But God on Tap is where we can personally invite someone so they will be encouraged to consider Jesus.

Let's be bold and creative as we think about the people we can invite along. Take time to write down three names:

1. .....

2. .....

3. .....

We have paper flyers on our Sunday Connect Desk, but you can also forward onto a friend an e-invite which you can find here: ***christcentral.org.au/god-on-tap***

WHAT YOU CAN PRAY FOR

It's stunning to see the prayer life of the early church. What boldness! Again, some of the story of Acts is more descriptive than prescriptive, but what a beautiful model they give us.

> *"Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them… They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."*
>
> *After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. Acts 4:24-31*

As we come to prayer let's also reflect on the words of our Lord Jesus to the apostle Paul that we saw last week:

> *One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city." So Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and a half, teaching them the word of God. Acts 18:9-11*

So let's pray with boldness and for boldness. Here's some prayer points:

1. Give praise to our Sovereign Lord Jesus who has people who are His on the north edge of Brisbane.

2. Give thanks for Jesus' sure promise that He is always with us, that the Spirit of Jesus is in us.

3. Pray for the particular people on our hearts, as we listed on the previous page.

4. Pray for the events of our Reach Week, particularly God on Tap and the Free Community BBQ. Pray that we would be a welcoming church and that ultimately God would draw people to Himself in faith and repentance.

5. Pray for the QUT Mission Team (about 9 students) lead by Rodney Weatherhead from AFES (Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students). Pray that they would be encouraged by their time with us.



BIBLE TALK NOTES

Sunday 22 of November

ACTS 18:23-19:7

STUDY 8

REBELLIOUS CHRISTIANITY

ACTS 19:8-41

EXPLORING TOGETHER

In our Growth Groups, we've been using what's known as the 'Swedish Method'. It's a way of giving us time to process what's there in the passage and to get discussion going on what we've observed. Follow the directions below and note down some of your own observations and thoughts. Then we'll discuss what you've found!

Light Bulb. Write down any interesting observations you get from the passage. This includes things that stand out, repeated ideas/words or something you found unusual.

Question Mark. Any questions from the text or an issue or point that doesn't make sense from the passage. Questions are great! They encourage us to think a bit harder about the passage and its implications. They also give us a chance to help each other understand Scripture better.

Arrow. Note down any reflections on things you found challenging or applicable to you. The bible addresses our heads, hearts and hands, or if you like, our thoughts, attitudes and actions so reflect on whether the passage addresses any of these.

Read Acts 19:8-41 and take some time to fill in the sections below.









DIGGING DEEPER

1. Thinking back to earlier moments that Luke recorded in Acts, in what ways are we seeing a repeating pattern in the events of Acts 19?

2. Last week's study raised the idea that sometimes the events recorded in Acts are much more *descriptive* than *prescriptive*, but it doesn't mean there's nothing for us to learn or be challenged with. What do you think we're supposed to take away from the extraordinary events in verses 11-17?

3. Perhaps Paul is getting used to an angry crowd uproar! Something similar happened during his second missionary journey while in Thessalonica and Berea (See Acts 17:1-15). Why do you think Luke includes a record of this riot in Ephesus? What sort of light does this cast these idol worshippers in, and how does it bring perspective to this early spread of Christianity?

4. Thinking about this moment as Demetrius a silversmith whips up a crowd in Ephesus, but also drawing on moments in Acts such as 7:41; 14:15; 17:16, 24 – how should we view idol worship?

ACTS & OUR CHURCH

1. Verse 8 has those words 'arguing persuasively'. We could add that description for gospel proclamation to the words used in Acts 17:2-3; Acts 18:4 and Acts 18:19. In what ways does this help or challenge you as you think about talking to others about Jesus?

2. It's not Christians who cause riots and civil disturbance, it's idol worshippers! But at the same time we see that when the gospel of King Jesus grips hearts, there is radical life-transformation, even culture-transformation. What perspective does this bring to us as we think about the impact we want God to make on the north edge of Brisbane and beyond?



PRAYER

Flip back to pages 43-45 and bring a focus on Reach Week into your prayer time together. Reach Week begins this coming weekend! Let's keep praying for people – for making those invitations and that they would come to know King Jesus.

This study was written by Garnet Swann



BIBLE TALK NOTES

Sunday 29 of November

ACTS 19:8-41


CHRIST CENTRAL