CHAPTER 28
New Beginnings
ACTS 1-10, 12

THE STORY
Introduction

God’s grand vision is to be with his people. God devised a plan to call his people back.
- Phase 1 – Israel
- Phase 2 – Jesus
- Phase 3 – The Church

The work of the Holy Spirit features prominently in Acts.

“I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth.”

John 14:16-17a
Who is the Holy Spirit?

• He is God. He is the third person of the Trinity.
• He would come to live in the heart of every follower of Jesus.

In Acts 1, the disciples are told to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit is given.
Ten days later, on the day of Pentecost, the Spirit came. Acts 2:1-4

Jews from every nation were in Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost.

The 120 disciples became cross-cultural missionaries, speaking the wonderful works of God in the languages of the world. Acts 2:5-12

THE STORY
The people were amazed. What does this mean?

Peter stood up and spoke to the crowd. His message – Jesus is alive and Jesus is Lord. There are four things the disciples (and we) need to know to carry out God’s plan.
I. The Mission.
MATTHEW 28:18-20

THE STORY
The mission is to make disciples of all nations. Not just converts but disciples. That’s why we do what we do at our church. Worship, Grow, Serve. Making disciples is at the heart of our ministry to children, youth and adults. The challenge is to keep the main thing the main thing.

THE STORY
II. The Message.

ACTS 2:29-39

THE STORY
The message is the gospel. Peter boldly testified that Jesus Christ is Lord. He called people to repent of their sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus. Throughout the book of Acts we see the disciples sharing the Gospel and calling people to put their trust in Jesus. Don’t change the message. There is salvation in no one else. Acts 4:12
III. The Method.
ACTS1:8 and 2:42-47
God’s method to bring the gospel to the nations is the church. It is us.

“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.” Acts 1:8

The word for witness is a sobering one. It is the Greek word martures (martyrs).
The book of Acts gives us a picture of what the church will look like when God is present. Acts 2:42-47

• Teaching
• Fellowship
• Worship
• The Lord’s Supper
• Prayer
• Sacrificial Giving and Service
• Joy
• Fruit – Spiritual Growth

THE STORY
IV. The Means (the source of power).
ACTS 1:8, 4:8, 31 and 6:5
It is only by the power of the Holy Spirit that we can be a witness for Christ. We are to be filled with the Holy Spirit continually. Ephesians 5:18

When we are filled with the Holy Spirit he changes us and he produces in us these qualities.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” Galatians 5:22-23
When we use our gifts in ministry, God blesses us and our joy increases.
Conclusion

What’s the mission? To Make Disciples.
What’s the message? The Gospel.
What’s the method? The Church.
What’s the means (the source of power)? The Holy Spirit.
THE STORY