

Following the
historical
Christian
developments

in the
New Testament's
book of

ACTS

INTRODUCTION

This course is intended for International Students who have a good understanding of the English language and an interest in Christian teaching. These studies will provide opportunity to improve skills in reading, pronunciation, comprehension, and Bible knowledge while learning what happened after Jesus died and rose again.

Each question is in multiple-choice format. Be very careful when reading the possible answers to determine which ones are accurate, and to select one or more accurate statements. Some are direct quotes from the Bible verses, but they may not be the answer to the question being asked, or the statements that are made.

The following steps will be helpful in determining the best responses:

1. Determine which statements are true, or most accurate
2. Discover why the other statements are not true, or are not as important as the best answer
3. Discuss the meaning of the statements that are true, and thus confirm your choice of answer
4. Endeavour to follow the flow of the Biblical content of the book of Acts

INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS

1. The author of the book of Acts is
 - a) Peter – John 21:21
 - b) John – John 21:24
 - c) Luke – Acts 1:1-3
 - d) Paul – Acts 15:23

2. When the author mentions in Acts 1:1 that he had written another book, to which book does he refer?
 - a) The gospel of Matthew
 - b) The gospel of Mark
 - c) The gospel of Luke
 - d) The gospel of John
 - e) First Peter

3. The author was
 - a) One of Jesus' 12 disciples (Matthew 10:2-4)
 - b) A historian (Acts 1:1)
 - c) The apostle Peter's biographer (Acts 3:4-8)
 - d) A doctor who became a companion of Paul and other important Christian leaders (Acts 21:1-6)

4. The purpose of the book of Acts is to
 - a) Make sure everyone reads the author's first book (Acts 1:1)
 - b) Continue to tell of Jesus and His ministry after He rose from the dead (Acts 1:3)
 - c) Make certain that all the disciples became as famous as Jesus is (Acts 1:4)
 - d) Encourage everyone to be baptized by John the Baptizer (Acts 1:5)

5. Pick the happenings that you expect to find in the book of Acts.

- a) The acts (actions) of the Jesus' followers after He left them to go back to heaven
- b) The acts (actions) of the Holy Spirit
- c) The acts (actions) of the enemies of Jesus
- d) The acts (actions) of ordinary Christians
- e) The acts (actions) of important political and government leaders
- f) The acts (actions) of those who were being persecuted because of their faith
- g) The acts (actions) of those whose lives were changed when they became Christians.
- h) All of the above

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE READINGS

1-1. Read Acts 1:1-3 -- -- -- Jesus' after-death appearance before His followers was important because

- a) He wanted to make their faith stronger
- b) He wanted to teach His followers more about God & His kingdom (v 3)
- c) He wanted to prove that He was alive, as He promised He would be (v 3)
- d) He had 40 days to spare, so He decided to spend them with the disciples (v 3)

1-2. Read Acts 1:4-8 -- -- -- Jesus' last instructions included

- a) Making sure that Jerusalem became an important city (v 4)
- b) Promising them that they would soon be baptized with the Holy Spirit (v 5)
- c) Sharing with His disciples how He was going to restore the Jewish nation (v 6)
- d) Telling them that after they received the power of the Holy Spirit they would be witnesses for Him from Jerusalem to the ends of the world (v 7-8)

1-3. Read Acts 1:9-11 -- -- -- While Jesus was disappearing from the disciples

- a) The cloud suddenly moved to the wrong place and hid Him (v 9)
- b) Two men (angels) dressed in white began preparing a meal for the disciples (v 10)
- c) Two men came to scold the believers (v 11)
- d) The two men promised that Jesus would come back from heaven some day in the same way they had seen Him go to heaven (v 11)

1-4. Read Acts 1:12-19 -- -- -- After Jesus left His disciples behind they

- a) All went for a walk because exercise is important (v 12)
- b) Joined others and spent their time praying together (v 13-14)
- c) Started counting how many believers there were (v 15)
- d) Blamed Judas for killing Jesus (v 15-17)
- e) Agreed that Judas did the right thing when he killed himself in the field his money bought (v 18-19)

1-5. Read Acts 1:20-26 -- -- -- The main result of Peter's speech was that

- a) He liked the book of Psalms, so he was able to quote from it once again (v 20)
- b) There had to be 12 disciples, so it was very important to replace Judas as a disciple right away (v 20-21)
- c) An apostle is defined a person who is a witness of Jesus' resurrection – that He is definitely alive! (v 22)
- d) Matthias was prematurely given the position of an apostle since he was not mentioned again in the book of Acts
- e) It became evident that Peter did not know that God was already preparing Paul to be a very important and effective disciple of Jesus (I Corinthians 9:1-2)

2-1. Read Acts 2:1-13 -- -- -- When the Holy Spirit came to fill the believers

- a) They were caught by surprise, no knowing what to expect (v 1-3)
- b) He enabled them to share the good news to others in their own languages (v 4)
- c) The disciples began to speak in other languages, which means that the good news about Jesus' forgiveness is available to all people everywhere (v 5-12)
- d) They acted as if they had been drinking too much wine (v 13)
- e) The noise, the tongues of fire and the ability to suddenly speak in other languages became the pattern for what should be happening today so that people would be afraid of Jesus

2-2. Read Acts 2:14-21 -- -- -- Peter again stood up to speak to the people because

- a) He knew more than the other believers and was proud of his abilities
- b) He was especially chosen by Jesus to give the first speech about the coming of God's Spirit and the beginning of God's people called the church (see Matthew 16:15-18)
- c) The other apostles forced him to speak (v 14)
- d) He resented the idea that some people said he and the others were drunk (v 14-16)
- e) He knew many Old Testament statements that were connected with this famous event (v 17-21)

2-3. Read Acts 2:22-28 -- -- -- Peter's main point in speaking was to

- a) Make the people feel guilty about Jesus' death (v 22-23)
- b) Assure the believers that God knew what would happen, and allowed Jesus to be put to death for a set purpose (v 23)
- c) Repeat the fact that Jesus was alive, and that death could not keep Him in the grave (v 24)
- d) Impress the listeners with what he knew about the history of King David (v 25-28)

2-4. Read Acts 2:29-41 -- -- -- Peter concluded his long talk by

- a) Insisting that Jesus was raised to life again, and that the disciples were witnesses of this fact (v 29-32)
- b) Assuring everyone that God made Jesus Lord and Christ of all religious people (v 33-36)
- c) Making sure the people all felt guilty about killing Jesus (v 37)
- d) Telling the people to go home and be good (v 38)
- e) Counting how many became believers and were baptized because of his speech (v 39-41)

2-5. Read Acts 2:42-47 -- -- -- Some signs of a strong church (a group of believers) are:

- a) Bible teaching, fellowship, communion and prayer (v 42-43)
- b) People are filled with awe (v 44)
- c) Wonders and signs are done by disciples (v 44)
- d) Believers share all they have with others (v 45-46)
- e) Believers stay in their own homes instead of visiting others (v 46)
- f) God is praised (v 47)

3-1. Read Acts 3:1-10 -- -- -- Peter & John helped the beggar because they

- a) Belonged to an organization which gave money to poor people (v 1-3)
- b) Wanted the beggar to think that they were important leaders (v 4, 5)
- c) Desired that the crippled beggar learn that Jesus was able to do the impossible for those who believe (v 6, 7)
- d) Were interested in impressing the people in the temple courts with their power to perform miracles (v 8-10)

3-2. Read Acts 3:11-16 -- -- -- Why did Peter & John explain the miracle?

- a) They were pleased that the people noticed they could perform miracles (v 11)
- b) They wanted people to know the miracle happened because of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob, who started the Jewish nation (v 12-13)
- c) They wanted to be sure the onlookers felt guilty for killing Jesus and for asking that a murderer be freed instead of Jesus (v 13-15)
- d) They wanted the people to understand that it was because of Jesus, and faith in His name that the miracle happened (v 16)

3-3. Read Acts 3:17-26 -- -- -- Which of these promises do you think are especially important?

- a) Repent, turn to God and your sins will be wiped out (v 17-19)
- b) Jesus is the Christ who came from heaven for us (v 20-23)
- c) You can be an heir of the prophets and the promises God made to His people (v 24-25)
- d) Through Jesus all the people on earth will be blessed (v 25)
- e) Jesus can change people from being wicked to being good (v 26)
- f) All of the above

4-1. Read Acts 4:1-12 -- -- -- Peter & John were persecuted because

- a) They were not speaking enough about Jesus being alive again (v 1-2)
- b) Almost 5000 people believed in Jesus (v 3-4)
- c) They were using a secret power to do miracles (v 5-7)
- d) They were insisting too strongly that Jesus was crucified at the request of the Jewish leaders, that He was alive again, and that He was the One who did the miracle (v 8-11)
- e) They said that there is only one Person who can save anyone from sin and that Person is Jesus Christ (v 12)

4-2. Read Acts 4:13-22 -- -- -- The reason people were impressed with Peter & John was that

- a) Their power was so great (v 13)
- b) They were unschooled, ordinary men who had been with Jesus (v 13)
- c) They would not stop talking about Jesus even after they were threatened (v 17-20)
- d) The man who was healed was standing before them, and there was no way they could deny the miracle (v 21-22)
- e) All of the above

4-3. Read Acts 4:23-31 -- -- -- When Peter & John were released, they

- a) Hid from the authorities (v 23)
- b) Immediately inspired others to pray to God (v 24-26)
- c) Placed the blame for their problems on Herod and Pilate (v 27-28)
- d) Feared being part of another miracle (v 29-30)
- e) Prayed with the other disciples and their prayers together were so fervent that the place where they prayed shook, they were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke even more boldly about Jesus (v 31)

4-4. Read Acts 4:32-36 -- -- -- The most important matter facing the disciples was

- a) Confusion because of their united hearts and minds (v 32)
- b) Showing how united they all were (v 32)
- c) Preaching with great power about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus (v 33)
- d) Selling everything they owned to share with others (v 34, 35)
- e) Starting a political movement called "Encouragement" that emphasized a system of economic equality (v 36)
- f) How to deal with people who were proud of how much property they owned (v 36-37)

5-1. Read Acts 5:1-10 -- -- -- Ananias & Sapphira died suddenly because they

- a) Were rich (v 1)
- b) Kept some of the sale money for themselves (v 2)
- c) Had agreed together to commit sin (v 2)
- d) Lied about the sale price, thus hurting the Holy Spirit (v 3-8)
- e) Made Peter angry because they didn't give enough to the poor (v 9-10)

5-2. Read Acts 5:11-16 -- -- -- The disciples were so popular for a short time because

- a) The people were afraid of them (v 11)
- b) They performed many miracles & wonders (v 12)
- c) People were forced to regard them highly (v 13)
- d) People thought it was a good thing to attach themselves to the disciples and also become popular (v 14)
- e) Peter's shadow did strange things (v 15)
- e) Crowds from many towns brought all the sick to Dr. Peter's hospital (v 16)

5-3. Read Acts 5:17-29 -- -- -- Which of the prison events impresses you most?

- a) The religious people were filled with jealousy (v 17-18)
- b) Peter and John hired private angels to open prison doors for them (v 19-20)
- c) The two disciples succeeded in confusing the authorities (v 21-26)
- d) They made the religious people feel badly by saying they were guilty of killing Jesus (v 27-28)
- e) They insisted that they should obey God, not man (v 29)

5-4. Read Acts 5:30-42 -- -- -- Why didn't the religious leaders kill the disciples?

- a) Peter's speech was too powerful (v 30-32)
- b) Gamaliel, a religious leader, stopped them by giving them some excellent advice (v 33-39)
- c) The religious leaders decided that beating the disciples would be more effective than killing them (v 40)
- d) The disciples enjoyed suffering.
- e) They couldn't catch the disciples because they were busy going from place to place teaching about Jesus (v 42)

6-1. Read Acts 6:1-7 -- -- -- The church had a problem because

- a) There were too many disciples (followers of Jesus) (v 1)
- b) The widows were not taken care of (v 1)
- c) Nobody wanted to help the disciples (v 2-3)
- d) The disciples wanted to concentrate their efforts on praying and sharing the good news instead of doing good deeds (v 4)
- e) The seven people chosen to help got sidetracked by the increasing number of believers (v 5-7)

6-2. Read Acts 6:8-15 -- -- -- Stephen got into trouble with the authorities when

- a) He did too many miracles and signs among the people (v 8)
- b) He was too intelligent, winning all the arguments (v 9, 10)
- c) He spoke against Moses and against God (v 11)
- d) The religious leaders made false statements about Stephen's preaching (v 12-14)
- e) He looked like an angel (v 15)

7-1. Read Acts 7:1-16 -- -- -- Stephen's main reason for explaining Hebrew history centered on

- a) Abraham leaving his country without knowing where to go (v 1-3)
- b) Abraham's descendants allowing themselves to become slaves (v 4-7)
- c) Jacob having many sons who couldn't get along with each other (v 8-9)
- d) Jacob and his family staying in Egypt after they went there to get food (v 10-16)
- e) None of the above – he just gave a simple summary of Jewish history and Jesus' background

7-2. Read Acts 7:17-43 -- -- -- Stephen emphasized that Moses had a special place in Jewish history because

- a) Pharaoh's daughter found him and raised him as her own son (v 17-22)
- b) He killed an Egyptian who was mistreating one of the Jews (v 23-26)
- c) He left Egypt quickly, and lived in the desert for 40 years (v 27-29)
- d) When he was 80 years old, he heard God's voice out of a burning bush (v 30-33)
- e) God sent him to Egypt to rescue the Jews and lead them out to the Promised Land (v 30-43)

7-3. Read Acts 7:44-60 -- -- -- The reason Stephen was stoned to death was that

- a) His speech was boring, and far too long
- b) He tried to prove that he knew the Jewish background better than the Jewish religious leaders did (v 45-50)
- c) He called the religious leaders terrible names (v 51-53)
- d) He said he saw Jesus in heaven standing at God's right hand (v 54-56)
- e) He prayed that God would receive his spirit (v 57-59)
- f) He wouldn't forgive those who persecuted him (v 60)

8-1. Read Acts 7:60b to 8:17 -- -- -- The most important person in these verses is

- a) Saul, because he gave permission to stone Stephen and tried to destroy the church (7:60b – 8:3)
- b) Philip, because great crowds listened to him and saw the miracles he performed, especially healing many who were troubled by evil spirits (v 4-8)
- c) Simon, because he claimed he had the divine, or Great Power (v 9-13)
- d) Peter, because he and John could put their hands on people and they would receive the Holy Spirit (v 14-17)
- e) All of the above

8-2. Read Acts 8:18-25 -- -- -- Simon got into trouble because

- a) He recognized his power was limited in comparison to that of Peter and John (v 18)
- b) He offered money to have the same ability as Peter and John had (v 19)
- c) He was full of bitterness and a captive to sin (v 20-23)
- d) He asked for prayer (v 24-25)

8-3. Read Acts 8:26-40 -- -- -- Philip is a good example of an effective Christian because he

- a) Often talked with the angels (v 26)
- b) Knew important government leaders from other countries (v 27-29)
- c) Helped the treasurer from Ethiopia understand the good news about Jesus (v 30-35)
- d) Baptized the Ethiopian official right away (v 36-38)
- e) Could disappear suddenly and then appear in another place preaching about Jesus (v 39-40)

9-1. Read Acts 9:1-2 -- -- -- What was Saul's original purpose in life?

- a) Breathing much fresh air (v 1)
- b) Threatening all followers of Jesus with murder (v 1)
- c) Eliminating Christian leaders (7:58)
- d) Bothering the high priest by asking him to write letters (v 2)
- e) Opposing Christianity by putting Christian people into prison (v 2)

9-2. Read Acts 9:3-11 -- -- -- Why did Saul become a Christian?

- a) A bright light from heaven shone around him in the middle of the day (v 3)
- b) He was tired of persecuting Christian people (v 4, 5)
- c) Jesus spoke to him, asking why Saul was persecuting Him (v 4-6)
- d) He was afraid to fall to the ground again (v 7-9)
- e) God sent Ananias to him to help him understand who Jesus is, and to restore Saul's eyesight (v 10-11)

9-3. Read Acts 9:12-16 -- -- -- What was the main point in the conversation Jesus had with Ananias?

- a) Visions were very important to Christians (v 12)
- b) Ananias was supposed to go to Saul to restore his sight, and to help him understand about Jesus (v 12)
- c) Ananias was thrilled to go to see Saul (v 13-14)
- d) The word "Go" (v 15)
- e) Saul is a person specially chosen to tell about Jesus to Jews and Gentiles, kings and common people (v 15)
- f) Saul must suffer much because he had been very mean to Christians (v 15)

9-4. Read Acts 9:17-19 -- -- -- When Ananias went to see Saul,

- a) He entered the house to see what Saul looked like (v 17)
- b) He placed his hands on Saul and called him "brother" (v 17)
- c) He explained that Jesus had sent him so that Saul's eyesight would be restored and that Saul would be filled with His Holy Spirit (v 17)
- d) Saul could see again, he became clean, he ate (v 18-19)

9-5. Read Acts 9:20-31 -- -- -- Saul became a strong disciple of Jesus because

- a) He immediately began to preach to his former friends, the Jewish leaders in the synagogue, declaring that Jesus is the Son of God (v 20)
- b) He liked to argue (v 21-22)
- c) Being targeted to be killed is a good sign of being a strong believer (v 23-24)
- d) He showed how humble he was by being lowered outside the wall at night in a basket (v 25)
- e) He had to prove to other disciples that he was a true believer (v 26)
- f) Barnabas took him to meet the other disciples and the apostles to tell them how he became a Christian (v 27-29)

9-6. Read Acts 9:32-43 -- -- -- Why did Peter travel about the country?

- a) There were many believers now and they needed encouragement (v 32)
- b) He looked for ways to help people because he liked all the attention he was getting through the miracles that were happening (v 33-35)
- c) He had a special liking for people who were always doing good, like Dorcas (v 36-38)
- d) He specialized in making dead people live again (v 39-41)
- e) He wanted more people to believe in the Lord Jesus (v 42-43)

10-1. Read Acts 10:1-23 -- -- -- Peter's next special assignment was to

- a) Send angels to bother Roman military officers (v 1-3)
- b) Assist people who experienced special visions (v 4-8)
- c) Pray (v 9)
- d) Experience strange visions in which Jesus spoke to him (v 10-12)
- e) Eat anything that was provided for him (v 13-16)
- f) Be ready when called to do something for God, or to go somewhere to teach others about Jesus (v 17-23)

10-2. Read Acts 10:24-48 -- -- -- What impresses you most about Peter?

- a) His humility (v 24-26)
- b) His flexibility (v 27-29)
- c) His readiness to listen (v 30-33)
- d) His speech – about Jesus and the Holy Spirit (v 34-38)
- e) His message saying that there is forgiveness of sins through Jesus (v 39-43)
- f) His acceptance of Gentiles for baptism as soon as they believed (v 44-47)
- g) His willingness to stay with the new believers for several days (v 48)

11-1. Read Acts 11:1-18 -- -- -- Sort out how Peter attempted to explain his actions to the Jewish believers at Jerusalem.

- a) He admitted he had eaten with Gentiles (people who were not Jews) (v 1-3)
- b) He said that he had not asked God for a vision (v 4-6)
- c) He explained that he did not obey God's voice the first time he was told to eat (v 7-10)
- d) He blamed the Holy Spirit for sending him to a Gentile house (v 11-14)
- e) He didn't want to oppose God (v 15)
- f) He remembered that the Lord had stated that believers would be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and this included the Gentiles also (v 16-17)
- g) Other believers then agreed that God was also offering the Gentiles repentance unto life (v 18)

11-2. Read Acts 11:19-30 -- -- -- Why was the church at Antioch so strong?

- a) The Christians who were experiencing persecution travelled everywhere, teaching about Jesus (v 19)
- b) There were many Greek people in Antioch (v 20-21)
- c) Barnabas was sent to Antioch by the church at Jerusalem to encourage the believers there (v 22-24)
- d) Barnabas found Saul in Tarsus and brought him to Antioch, where they spent a whole year teaching great numbers of people (v 25-26)
- e) The believers in Antioch were the first ones to be called Christians (v 26)
- f) The Christians in Antioch were richer than those in Judea so they sent gifts to the believers in Judea (v 27-30)

12-1. Read Acts 12:1-11 -- -- -- Peter escaped from prison because

- a) James helped him to escape (v 1-2)
- b) The guards were too careless (v 3-4)
- c) The prayers of the Christians were magic (v 5)
- d) An angel woke him up in the night, took his chains off, and led him out of the prison (v 6-10)
- e) He was able to sleep-walk through the prison gates (v 11)

12-2. Read Acts 12:12-19 -- -- -- What was the response of the Christians when Peter knocked on the door?

- a) They were waiting for him with an open door (v 12-14)
- b) They thought he was an angel (v 15)
- c) They were astonished when they saw Peter (v 16)
- d) They were afraid, so told him to leave (v 17)
- e) They insisted that Herod should execute the guards because they had failed to guard Peter carefully (v 18-19)

12-3. Read Acts 12:20-25 -- -- -- The reason for King Herod's death was

- a) He was always quarreling with someone (v 20)
- b) The strain of giving a public speech was too much for him (v 21)
- c) He accepted for himself the praise that should have been given to God (v 22-23)
- d) He was shocked by how many people had become Christians (v 24-25)
- e) He didn't realize that Mark had become a strong leader and joined Paul and Barnabas (v 25)

13-1. Read Acts 13:1-3 -- -- -- Why did the church at Antioch send Saul and Barnabas away?

- a) There were too many Bible teachers in Antioch (v 1)
- b) God told them to set these two men apart for work that He had called them to do (v 2-3)
- c) They were fasting and praying too much, and not doing enough work (v 3)
- d) None of the above

13-2. Read Acts 13:4-12 -- -- -- The main responsibility Saul and Barnabas had was to

- a) Travel to a lot of places during their holidays (v 4-6)
- b) Become acquainted with important people (v 6-7)
- c) Start another argument or riot (v 8)
- d) Find a new name for Saul (v 9)
- e) Cause blindness to those who opposed them (v 10-11)
- f) Show others how powerful their Lord is, and to help them to believe in Him (v 12)

13-3. Read Acts 13:13-30 -- -- -- What was Paul's topic when he talked to the people in Pisidian Antioch?

- a) The reason John Mark left them to return to Jerusalem (v 13-15)
- b) The first 450 years of Jewish history (v 16-20)
- c) David was a more important king than the judges before him or the kings after him (v 21-22)
- d) People cannot become Christians unless they repent and are baptized by John (v 23-25)
- e) Jesus, a descendant of Abraham and David, came to give the message of salvation, and He was killed, then rose again, just as the prophets had predicted (v 26-30)

13-4. Read Acts 13:31-37 -- -- -- Paul emphasized that Jesus truly did rise from the dead because

- a) He was seen by many people after He rose from the dead (v 31)
- b) This was predicted in Psalm 2 approximately 1000 years before Jesus died (v 32-37)
- c) David died like all ordinary people, but his descendant Jesus, Who became the Saviour, was raised from the dead and lives forever (v 36-37)
- d) All of the above

- 13-5.** Read Acts 13:38-45 -- -- -- According to Paul, what should the first Christians be certain about?
- a) Forgiveness of sins is offered to them through Jesus (v 38)
 - b) Jesus' forgiveness is almost as important as the law of Moses (v 39-41)
 - c) The importance of continuing in the grace of God (v 42-43)
 - d) Not having huge crowds come to listen because this creates jealousy and other problems (v 44-45)
- 13-6.** Read Acts 13:46-52 -- -- -- How did Paul and Barnabas deal with the resistance to their message by the Jewish leaders?
- a) They said, "If you won't listen, others will." (v 46)
 - b) They insisted that those who opposed them and Jesus should not have eternal life (v 46)
 - c) They quoted from Isaiah (in the Old Testament) a verse that tells them to be a light to the Gentiles (v 47)
 - d) They stated that they would concentrate on helping the Gentiles hear and understand about Jesus' forgiveness, because only the Gentiles knew how to choose correctly (v 47-48)
 - e) They couldn't stand against the opposition of the men and women who were leaders, so they went to another city (v 49-52)
- 14-1.** Read Acts 14:1-7 -- -- -- We know Paul and Barnabas were effective speakers because
- a) Whenever they reached a new city, they went first into the synagogue to preach (v 1)
 - b) A great number of Jews and Gentiles believed (v 1)
 - c) If the Jews were against them, they must have said the right things (v 2)
 - d) Their message was confirmed by signs and wonders (v 3)
 - e) They caused such a great division among the people that they had to run away to another city (v 4-7)

14-2. Read Acts 14:8-20 -- -- -- Paul and Barnabas especially enjoyed

- a) Challenging people to do the impossible (v 8-10)
- b) Being considered as special gods (v 11-13)
- c) Tearing their clothing in public (v 14)
- d) Explaining to people why it is important to believe the living God (v 15-18)
- e) Being stoned (v 19-20)

14-3. Read Acts 14:21-28 -- -- -- Identify the most important events of Paul and Barnabas' return trip.

- a) Many more people became disciples in Derbe and other cities (v 21)
- b) They encouraged those who were already Christians to remain true to the faith (v 22)
- c) Promising hardships for the believers was especially helpful (v 22)
- d) Praying, fasting and delegating instead of working for a living and eating (v 23)
- e) Returning to Antioch and reporting what God had done, especially the way the Gentiles turned to God (v 24-28)

15-1. Read Acts 15:1-5 -- -- -- The first really big meeting of Christian leaders was needed

- a) Because Moses' rules & customs were not being followed carefully (v 1)
- b) To settle the big argument Paul and Barnabas had with the leaders from Judea (v 2)
- c) To plan a trip to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders whom they missed terribly (v 2-4)
- d) To decide whether the Gentiles needed to be circumcised, as was required by the Law of Moses (v 5)

15-2. Read Acts 15:6-21 -- -- -- In Jerusalem, once again Peter made a long speech. His reason this time was that

- a) He had witnessed God giving His Holy Spirit to the Gentiles as He had done to the Jewish believers (v 6-8)
- b) He believed that both Jews and Gentiles can receive salvation by faith through the grace of God (v 9-11)
- c) He knew that Paul & Barnabas would give the right kind of testimony about what was happening among the Gentiles (v 12)
- d) He was James' special friend, and James would agree with him (v 13-18)
- e) He was a good writer, and could put on paper the exact feelings of those who were at the meeting (v 19-21)

15-3. Read Acts 15:22-35 -- -- -- Describe the importance of the letter to the believers in Antioch.

- a) They didn't trust Paul and Barnabas with the letter so they sent other believers with them to Antioch (v 22)
- b) They wrote that Moses' law was of no importance to the Gentiles (v 23-27)
- c) The Gentile Christians in Antioch were only required to follow four simple rules (v 28-29)
- d) The letter settled the problem in Antioch (v 30-32)
- e) Paul & Barnabas could continue to teach God's word in Antioch for a long time (v 33-35)

15-4. Read Acts 15:36-41 -- -- -- Paul and Barnabas had a big disagreement because

- a) They were getting old, and couldn't get along with each other
- b) They couldn't agree on what they should do next (v 36)
- c) Barnabas wanted to take John Mark on their next trip, but Paul thought he shouldn't go with them because he was a quitter (v 36-38)
- d) Paul was stronger on principle, and Barnabas wanted to give John Mark a second chance (v 39)
- e) They didn't know which direction they should go (v 40-41)

16-1. Read Acts 16:1-10 -- -- -- Paul's trip with Silas was noted especially for

- a) Circumcising young men (v 1-3)
- b) Telling the believers about the decision reached by the Christian leaders in Jerusalem (v 4)
- c) Seeing many churches strengthened, and the faith of many believers growing strong (v 5)
- d) Being stopped by the Holy Spirit from preaching in Asia (v 6-7)
- e) Paul's being told in a vision where he and Silas should go next (v 8-10)

16-2. Read Acts 16:11-24 -- -- -- Why did Paul and Silas end up in prison?

- a) As long as they were sailing they had no opposition, so they shouldn't have stopped at any port (v 11-12)
- b) Talking to the women at the riverside instead of praying (v 13-15)
- c) Paul not agreeing with the slave girl's prediction of the future (v 16)
- d) Forcing the spirit to leave the slave girl, and thus spoiling her owners' business of fortune-telling (v 17-19)
- e) Advocating customs that were unlawful for Romans to accept and practice (v 20-21)
- f) Being beaten and put in prison was a sign that they were doing the right things (v 22-24)

16-3. Read Acts 16:25-29 -- -- -- The great jail break happened because

- a) Paul & Silas sang hymns to God at mid-night, keeping the other prisoners awake (v 25)
- b) A big earthquake opened the prison doors, and loosed the chains of the prisoners (v 26)
- c) The jailer attempted to kill himself (v 27)
- d) God wanted the jailer to humble himself (v 28-29)

16-4. Read Acts 16:30-34 -- -- -- What was the most exciting event that happened next?

- a) The jailer trembled with fear and fell before Paul and Silas (v 30)
- b) The jailer immediately knew he had to get right with God (v 30)
- c) The jailer listened to the teaching from the Bible (v 32-32)
- d) The jailer's attitude was changed at once (v 33-34)
- e) The jailer believed in Jesus and was baptized along with his family (v 33-34)
- f) All of the above

16-5. Read Acts 16:35-40 -- -- -- Choose the most important statement that was made when Paul and Silas were about to be released from the jail.

- a) "Release those men" (v 35)
- b) "Go in peace" (v 36)
- c) "You beat us publicly, but now you want us to leave secretly!" (v 37)
- d) "We will sue you for this."
- e) "Please leave the city" (v 38-40)

17-1. Read Acts 17:1-9 -- -- -- The most important event that took place in Thessalonica was

- a) Paul and Silas kept going back to the synagogue where they always got into trouble (v 1-2)
- b) Paul preached on the one topic that caused a division among the listeners – that Jesus is the Christ (v 3-4)
- c) Paul made the Jews jealous (v 5)
- d) Paul enjoyed the experience of causing another riot (v 5-9)
- e) Paul said that Jesus and Caesar were equal (v 7-9)

17-2. Read Acts 17:10-15 -- -- -- The reasons for the good response in Berea was that

- a) Paul preached in the Jewish synagogue (v 10)
- b) The Bereans received Paul's preaching with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures carefully (v 11-12)
- c) Paul found another way to make the Jews in Thessalonica jealous (v 13)
- d) Paul was forced to leave for Athens, where he had wanted to go for a long time (v 14-15)
- e) Silas & Timothy stayed at Berea (v 14-15)

17-3. Read Acts 17:16-34 -- -- -- What was so important about Paul's visit to Athens?

- a) He agreed with the Epicurean and Stoic scholars (v 16-18)
- b) He was able to present his religious views to all the important people in Athens, especially bringing their attention to the altar he found "To an unknown god" (v 19-23)
- c) He said that only God chooses when and where we live on earth (v 24-26)
- d) He had the opportunity to explain to the Athenians who this unknown God really is, how He was raised from the dead, and could be experienced if people would really seek Him (v 27-31)
- e) A few men became followers of Paul and believed in Jesus (v 32-34)

18-1. Read Acts 18:1-17 -- -- -- Paul's visit to Corinth was crucial because

- a) In that city he met two wonderfully strong believers – Aquilla and his wife (v 1-4)
- b) Paul and his friends devoted their time to proving that Jesus was the Christ (v 5)
- c) Paul switched his preaching from the Jews to the Gentiles and more people believed (v 6-8)
- d) Paul was having fun with more visions for a period of 1½ years (v 9-11)
- e) The Jews tried to bring Paul before the court with all kinds of charges against him, but were not able to do so (v 12-17)

18-2. Read Acts 18:18-28 -- -- -- What are the main reasons that part of the Roman Empire was affected by Christian teaching?

- a) Paul had many helpers, who could go to many places to teach the believers (v 18-22)
- b) Paul strengthened the disciples everywhere he went (v 23)
- c) Apollos, a well-educated man who knew the Scriptures thoroughly, spoke boldly about the way of God (v 24-26)
- d) Apollos won a public debate proving to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ (v 27-28)
- e) All of the above

19-1. Read Acts 19:1-7 -- -- -- What problem did Paul discover at Ephesus?

- a) There was no Holy Spirit in Ephesus (v 1)
- b) Some disciples in Ephesus had never heard of the Holy Spirit (v 2)
- c) John's baptism was not valid in Ephesus (v 3-5)
- d) The problem was taken care of when Paul laid hands on the believers, and they had the same experience as the believing Jews and others had had on previous occasions (v 6)
- e) The twelve men who received the Holy Spirit were not as important as the twelve apostles (v 7)

19-2. Read Acts 19:8-22 -- -- -- What was Paul's greatest achievement in Ephesus during his two-year stay there?

- a) Giving daily lectures in the hall of Tyrannus (v 8-10)
- b) Empowering his aprons and handkerchiefs to perform miracles (v 11-12)
- c) Persuading the evil spirits to attack anyone who competed with him in performing miracles (v 13-16)
- d) Seeing the people burn their magic books and scrolls publicly, causing God's word to spread widely (v 17-20)
- e) Planning a trip to Jerusalem and then to go as far as Rome (v 21-22)

19-3. Read Acts 19:23-41 -- -- -- While he was in Ephesus, Paul caused another riot. What happened?

- a) Paul interfered with the workmen who carried out various trades (v 23-27)
- b) Paul had brought Gaius and Aristarchus (two Gentiles) with him from Macedonia (v 28-31)
- c) To prove his point and avoid upheaval, Paul should have had a debate with Alexander (v 32-34)
- d) According to the city clerk, the people of Ephesus should not have been threatened by Paul and his companions because they did not rob the temples or blaspheme their goddess (v 35-41)

20-1. Read Acts 20:1-12 -- -- -- Identify the outstanding events in Paul's life as he started his journey towards Jerusalem.

- a) Encouraging the Christians through the area he travelled (v 1-2)
- b) Avoiding a plot to kill him in Greece (v 3-6)
- c) Getting confused with others about what each one should do (v 4-6)
- d) Watching Eutychus carefully to see when he would fall out of the window while he preached an all-night sermon (v 7-9)
- e) Raising Eutychus from the dead (v 10-12)

20-2. Read Acts 20:13-38 -- -- -- Chose the most outstanding statement Paul made to the elders of the Ephesian church.

- a) He wondered, because of his haste to get to Jerusalem, if the elders would be able to meet him at the coast (v 13-16)
- b) He reminded them that he didn't hesitate to preach with great humility, publicly and from house to house (v 17-21)
- c) He said he was afraid to go to Jerusalem because of the prison, and hardships that waited there for him (v 22-24)
- d) He warned them that his tears would be wasted because false teachers would try to disturb the believers at Ephesus by distorting the truth (v 25-31)
- e) He pled with them to follow his example of hard work, giving and faith (v 32-35)
- f) Weeping, embracing, kissing and praying with the Ephesian leaders (v 36-37)
- g) He grieved them because he said they would not see his face again (v 38)
- h) All these statements are equally important

21-1. Read Acts 21:1-16 -- -- -- Identify the most outstanding experience Paul had on his way to Jerusalem.

- a) He was warned at Tyre not to go to Jerusalem (v 1-6)
- b) A reunion with Philip, a very important Christian leader (v 7-8)
- c) He was impressed how Philip had raised his family – all four daughters knew how to prophesy (v 9)
- d) He was warned again at Caesarea, by Agabus, that he should not go to Jerusalem (v 10-11)
- e) He displayed a strong stubbornness, not wanting to listen to all those who pled that he should not go to Jerusalem (v 12-16)

21-2. Read Acts 21:17-26 -- -- -- When Paul arrived in Jerusalem, he

- a) Was welcomed warmly (v 17)
- b) Reported to James and others what God had done among the Gentiles (v 18-19)
- c) Was surprised how many thousands of Jews believed (v 20)
- d) Shaved his head to prove he was a real nice person, not really a troublemaker (v 21-25)
- e) Was willing to go through Jewish purification rites to please the believers who had come from Jewish backgrounds (v 26)

21-3. Read Acts 21:27-40 -- -- -- Identify Paul's most dramatic experiences in Jerusalem.

- a) Being accused of bringing Greeks (Gentiles) into the temple area reserved for Jewish people (v 27-29)
- b) Facing death at the hands of the Jewish leaders (v 30)
- c) Being rescued by Roman soldiers from being killed by his own people (v 31-36)
- d) Being arrested for a crime caused by an Egyptian (v 37-40)
- e) All of the above

22-1. Read Acts 22:1-11 -- -- -- What do you think was the most important part of Paul's defense?

- a) Speaking in Aramaic (21:40 – 22:2)
- b) His educational and religious background (v 1-3)
- c) He was once the most effective persecutor of Christians (v 4-5)
- d) How Jesus, Who was supposed to be dead, spoke to him (v 6,7)
- e) He learned from Jesus that by persecuting Christians he was really persecuting Jesus (v 8-10)
- f) His companions held his hands while leading him to Damascus because he had become blind (v 10-11)

22-2. Read Acts 22:12-13 -- -- -- Paul recounted how Ananias was sent to help him because

- a) Ananias helped write the law so he followed its teachings carefully (v 12)
- b) He was respected by the Jews, and Paul was a Jew (v 12)
- c) Ananias was told by Jesus about Paul's blindness (v 13)
- d) Paul needed to know that being called a "brother" meant that there was a special relationship between him and other Christians (v 13)

22-3. Read Acts 22:14-15 -- -- -- Paul indicated that God's purpose for him, according to Ananias, was

- a) To know God's will (v 14)
- b) To see the righteous One (Jesus) (v 14)
- c) To hear what Jesus had to say to him (v 14)
- d) To be a witness to all men (v 15)
- e) All of the above

22-4. Read Acts 22:16-21 -- -- -- Paul remembered taking some important spiritual steps. Which one would be the most important?

- a) To stand up (v 16)
- b) To be baptized (v 16)
- c) To have his sins washed away by Ananias (v 16)
- d) To call on Jesus for forgiveness and direction (v 16)
- e) To pray in the temple (v 17)
- f) To run away from Jerusalem (v 18)
- g) To regret the death of Stephen (v 19-20)
- h) To preach to the Jews (v 21)

22-5. Read Acts 22:22-30 -- -- -- What happened when Paul tried to explain his faith in Jesus?

- a) The crowd interrupted his speech, demanding that he would be removed (killed) (v 22)
- b) The Roman commander ordered that he be beaten and questioned (v 23-24)
- c) Paul told the centurion that he was a Roman citizen (v 25)
- d) The Roman governor released him (v 26-27)
- e) The Roman commander didn't believe that Paul, a Roman citizen, could get into so much trouble (v 28-30)

23-1. Read Acts 23:1-11 -- -- -- What was Paul's main defense when he spoke to the Jewish council?

- a) Standing proudly without fear in front of his accusers (v 1)
- b) Calling the high priest "a whitewashed wall" (v 2-5)
- c) Saying that he believed in the resurrection of the dead (v 6)
- e) Declared that he was a Pharisee, and that he wanted the Pharisees to argue on his behalf (7-10)
- e) Hearing directly from God and being greatly encouraged by Him (v 11)

23-2. Read Acts 23:12 – 35 -- -- -- How and why did Paul end up before Governor Felix.

- a) Paul's nephew heard about a plot planned by at least 40 men to kill Paul (v 12-16)
- b) Paul bribed the commander to listen to the young man (v 17-22)
- c) During the night, he was escorted by a whole army to Caesarea (v 23-24)
- d) A letter was written and carried to the governor, Felix, trying to explain that Paul was not guilty of anything, but that he was a dangerous person (v 25-30)
- e) He was from Cilicia, which was under Felix' rule (v 31-34)
- f) Paul was safely kept under guard in Herod's palace (v 35)
- g) All of the above

24-1. Read Acts 24:1-21 -- -- -- Describe what happened at Paul's trial before Felix.

- a) The lawyer, Tertullus, described Paul as a great troublemaker, who always argued and preached against the Jews (v 1-9)
- b) Paul omitted sharing before Felix his wonderful story of how he became a Christian (v 10-12)
- c) Paul insisted that his belief is no different from that of his accusers, except that he followed Jesus (v 13-16)
- d) Paul summed up his defense by saying that the big issue before them all was whether the resurrection of Jesus had really taken place (v 17-21)

24-2. Read Acts 24:22-27 -- -- -- How did Felix respond to what he heard?

- a) He kept postponing his judgment about Paul's situation (v 22)
- b) He allowed Paul a great amount of freedom, and permitted Paul's friends to take care of his needs (v 23)
- c) He kept inviting Paul to talk with him, waiting for Paul to give him a bribe (v 24-26)
- d) He didn't let Paul go anywhere for two more years (v 27)
- e) All of the above

25-1. Read Acts 25:1-12 -- -- -- Festus was successor to Felix. What was his first decisive action?

- a) Not transferring Paul to Jerusalem, because he knew the Jews would try to kill him on the way there (v 1-5)
- b) Convening a court almost immediately to put Paul on trial (v 6)
- c) Realizing that by now Paul would have memorized a strong defensive argument (v 7-8)
- d) Forcing Paul to appeal to the highest court – in Rome, before Caesar (v 9-12)

25-2. Read Acts 25:13-27 -- -- -- Identify Festus' main reason for having King Agrippa hear Paul's case?

- a) He told King Agrippa that Paul had many charges against him (v 13-15)
- b) He explained to Agrippa that the results of his investigation were inconclusive (v 16-21)
- c) He said the dead man Jesus could not be alive (v 22)
- d) He had no specific reason to send Paul to Rome (v 21-22)
- e) He asked Agrippa for advice on what to write to the high court in Rome about this unusual prisoner (v 23-27)

26-1. Read Acts 26:1-23 -- -- -- Explain Paul's key point in his defense of himself?

- a) He praised Agrippa because the king knew about Jewish customs (v 1-3)
- b) He explained how he, too, had been like the Jews who were against him, because at one time he had done much harm to Jesus and His followers (v 4-11)
- c) He tried to impress the king, telling him about the blazing light he had seen in the daytime when he was going to Damascus, and how Jesus spoke to him about how wrong he was in what he was doing (v 12-18)
- d) He continued by saying he had been true to that voice, telling others about Jesus, but the Jews thought he was too aggressive (v 19-23)
- e) All of the above

26-2. Read Acts 26:24-32 -- -- -- Identify the main statement made by Festus or by Paul at the end of Paul's self-defense.

- a) Festus - "Your learning is driving you insane." (v 24)
- b) Paul - "Do you believe the prophets? I know you do." (v 25-27)
- c) Festus - "Are you trying to make me a Christian?" (v 28)
- d) Paul - "I wish you carried these chains – then you would know how I feel." (v 29)
- e) Festus - "If this man had been more careful, he wouldn't be in this situation" (v 29-32)

27-1. Read Acts 27:1-12 -- -- -- What was Paul's major concern as the boat on which he was a prisoner proceeded to Rome?

- a) Too many other prisoners and soldiers were on board the ship (v 1-2)
- b) There was not enough food on board the ship (v 3)
- c) Changing to another slower ship (v 4-8)
- d) Facing a terrible time at sea with damage to the ship and its cargo, and great difficulty for all the people on board (v 9-10)
- e) The centurion in charge of the soldiers did not listen to Paul's advice (v 11-12)

27-2. Read Acts 27:13-25 -- -- -- Choose what you would consider to be the most frightening experience which Paul and the others faced during the storm at sea?

- a) The ship could not head into the wind (v 13-15)
- b) Putting ropes under the ship to hold it together (v 16-17)
- c) Throwing all the tackle overboard to lighten the ship (v 18-19)
- d) Not seeing the sun or stars for many days (v 20)
- e) Not being able to eat (v 21)
- f) Paul being visited by an angel who talked with him (v 22-25)

27-3. Read Acts 27:26-44 -- -- -- Identify which was the greatest help in saving people from losing their lives when the ship crashed.

- a) The soldiers got rid of the sailors in the lifeboat (v 27-32)
- b) Paul's belief in God and his advice to the people to eat food to survive (v 33-34)
- c) Seeing Paul pray in front of everyone before eating (v 35-38)
- d) Cutting loose all the anchors (v 39-41)
- e) The centurion's decision to spare Paul's life (v 42-44)

28-1. Read Acts 28:1-10 -- -- -- Discover what was the most interesting development after Paul and the others were safely on the island?

- a) The people on the island were very kind to them (v 1-2)
- b) A dangerous snake fastened onto Paul's hand, but he survived the snake-bite, and was never even sick from it (v 3-5)
- c) It was a long time since Paul had been called a god, and it gave him a good feeling to hear it again (v 6)
- d) Paul prayed for an important official, who got well (v 7-10)

28-2. Read Acts 28:11-31 -- -- -- Identify the most encouraging experience Paul had when he arrived in Rome.

- a) Being met by Christians along the way (v 11-15)
- b) Being free to do what he pleased (v 16)
- c) Being able to defend himself before the Jewish leaders in Rome (v 17-22)
- d) Being given the opportunity to explain from morning to evening about his Master, Jesus (v 23)
- e) The response of his listeners (v 24-28)
- f) Being able to live in a rented house and preach boldly about Jesus and the Kingdom of God for 2 years, even though he was a prisoner (v 29-31)
- g) All of the above

SUMMARY

1. Choose which one of these topics may be the theme of the book of Acts.

- a) How the church started
- b) How Paul became a Christian
- c) How much persecution the first church people suffered
- d) How the gospel spread through Europe
- e) How to live as a Christian
- f) How the believers began to be called Christians
- g) Paul's life story

2. Pick the events that are of the most importance in the Book of Acts.

- a) The acts of the Jesus' followers after He left them to go back to heaven
- b) The acts of the Holy Spirit
- c) The acts of the enemies of Jesus
- d) The acts of ordinary Christians
- e) The acts of important political leaders
- f) The acts of those who were being persecuted because of their faith
- g) The acts of those whose lives were changed when they became Christians.

3. Identify two important lessons you have learned in your study of the book of Acts.

a)

b)