

Rick Mandl  
[rick@eaglerockbaptist.com](mailto:rick@eaglerockbaptist.com)  
Week of May 29, 2022

The Beginning of the Church...

1 In my first book I told you, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do and teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. 3 During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God. 4 Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, 'Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. 5 John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 6 So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, 'Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?' 7 He replied, 'The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' 9 After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. 10 As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. 11 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!'"

Acts 1:1-11

"Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write an accurate account for you, most honorable Theophilus..."

Luke 1:3

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ v. 3

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ v. 4-5

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ v. 6-8

Memory Verse

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

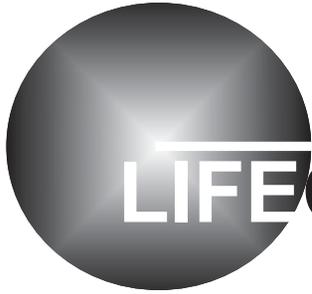
Acts 1:8

**The Acts Challenge:** Do you want to get more out of Acts than just hearing it during the weekend services? There are 28 chapters in Acts. Try reading or listening to a chapter a day for 28 days and see how it will grow your understanding in our Acts series

MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Memorize Acts 1:8
- Ask God to show me who he wants me to share my faith with sometime this week, this month, or this year
- Accept the Acts Challenge: Read a chapter of Acts a day for the next 28 days
- Get the most out of today's teaching by attending my Life Group





## Discussion Questions - Week #6

# LIFE GROUPS

### QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend, "The Beginning of the Church," summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Looking at your notes, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Is there any practical step you plan to take this week in response to the message?

### GETTING STARTED

► In the message, Pastor Rick shared the reason Jesus left us here on earth is to tell others about Him. If that is true, why do you think so few of us do so?

► One of the things we see at the beginning of the book of Acts is Jesus' promise of power. What person comes to mind when you hear the word power?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 together. What proof does the Apostle Paul offer for the resurrection?

How would you answer someone who asked why you believe Jesus is who He said He was?

Do you think it's possible to know and believe in Christ's resurrection and it not make a difference in your life?

Why do you think Paul felt it necessary to remind the brothers and sister of a gospel they received, believed, and on which they have taken their stand (v.1-2 & 11)?

Why do you think Paul worked as hard as he did (v.10) if he knew he was saved by grace?

2. Read Ephesians 1:15-23. What stands out to you in this passage?

How is the power that God demonstrates through Christ different from the way our world exercises power?

What does it mean that the same power that raised Jesus from the grave is in you?

Where have you seen God's resurrection power at work in your life?

Do you think anything would change if you began regularly praying this prayer for your life and others?

How could this passage be a source of encouragement this week?

### FOR PRACTICE

In Romans 12, Paul tells us that we are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. According to Richard Foster, "The mind is renewed by applying it to those things that will transform it." Thus consistently applying our minds to God's word is one of the surest avenues of transformation. We hope you take up the Acts challenge and spend the next 28 days reading the book of Acts and allowing God to use it to bring renewal and transformation to your mind.

### SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for the victims' families in New York, California, and Texas in the recent shootings. Pray for their healing and comfort. Pray also for the law enforcement officers who protect us and wisdom for our elected officials to develop solutions to this senseless violence. Pray that God would deliver us from evil, hatred, and racism.