



**ADVANCE**  
A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

**PART 3**

**THE UNSTOPPABLE MISSION OF GOD**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **SEPTEMBER 17 - SERVICE TEAM CONNECT**

Sunday during the 9a and 11a Gatherings  
Freedom Christian Academy

## **SEPTEMBER 23 - NEXT STEPS CLASS**

Saturday 9a - 12p  
Freedom Christian Academy

## **OCTOBER 4 - NIGHT OF PRAYER AND WORSHIP**

Wednesday 6:30p - 8p  
Freedom Christian Academy

## **OCTOBER 15 - POTLUCK BAPTISMS**

Sunday 4p - 6p  
Freedom Christian Academy

## **NOVEMBER 1 - NIGHT OF PRAYER AND WORSHIP**

Wednesday 6:30p - 8p  
Freedom Christian Academy

## **NOVEMBER 4 - NEXT STEPS CLASS**

Saturday 9a - 12p  
Freedom Christian Academy

## **DECEMBER 3 - CHRISTMAS CAROL COOKIE EXCHANGE**

Sunday 4p - 6p  
Freedom Christian Academy

For more information and to RSVP visit:  
[www.veritasfayetteville.com/events](http://www.veritasfayetteville.com/events)

### **WE EXIST FOR THE FAME OF JESUS**

Our Vision is to be a  
church:  
For the City.  
For the Military.  
For the Fame of Jesus.

Our Mission is to make  
disciples who:  
Love God.  
Love People.  
Advance the Gospel.

# ADVANCE



## A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

### WHY FOCUS ON THE BOOK OF ACTS?

What is the church? What should the church be doing? How should we work to advance the gospel and glorify God? All of these are good questions that we will find the answers to as we spend time studying the Book of Acts.

Acts is about men, women, and children encountering the once dead, now risen and reigning author of life: Jesus Christ. Through the church's obedience to Jesus' command, more churches are planted and the gospel is advanced in the midst of opposition and profound suffering. This is the story of the early church. In their story, we will find our story.

### INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ACTS

Acts is part two of a two-volume work (Luke/Acts). If the Gospel of Luke is the beginning of all that Jesus did (Luke 1:1-4), then the Book of Acts is the continuation of what Jesus is doing. It is the story of God's mission going forth, by the power of the Holy Spirit, through the church. As the church in Jerusalem grows and persecution increases, they obey Jesus' command (Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8) and advance the gospel through the planting of new churches.

Look for these key themes as you study the Book of Acts:

- **The mission of God** - This is the focus of the Book of Acts. The missional God is taking the good news of Jesus to the ends of the earth, through the church, by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- **The sovereignty of God** - God is in complete control over people, places, and events even when it seems like he isn't.
- **The Holy Spirit** - God the Spirit has come to dwell in the people of God to empower them for mission.
- **The church** - The people of God gathered to worship God and scattered to advance the gospel. The church is God's plan A for the advancement of the gospel.
- **Suffering** - This is a massive theme in Acts. God's people, the church, suffer persecution and opposition, and all the while, Jesus continues to build his church.

## ABOUT THIS SERIES GUIDE

This series guide is designed to help you study the text before you actually hear it preached on Sunday. We desire that you reflect upon the scripture before Sunday, and you are welcome to use the notes section of this booklet on your own, with your community group, or during corporate worship. We want to be a people of the Book, a people who don't just read the Bible, but who study and meditate on it. To that end, we've developed a series of questions to guide your study of the Bible.

After the study questions, we've included an example page of how to study the Bible with these questions using 1 John 3.

## STUDY QUESTIONS

- 1. GOD** - What does this text tell me about God?
- 2. MAN/MYSELF** - What does this text tell me about myself/mankind?
- 3. COMMAND/SIN/EXAMPLE/PROMISE** - In this text, is there a command to obey, a sin to avoid, an example to follow, or a promise to claim?
- 4. JESUS** - The Bible is all about Jesus. He is the only one who has perfectly obeyed every command of God, he's the only one who has lived without sinning, he is the example of perfection, and he is the only person who deserves the promises given...and he did all of this in our place. How do we see that in this text?
- 5. FOLLOW** - Because of Jesus' work in our place and the Spirit he has sent to dwell inside us...we can actually follow him. How can we now follow Jesus from this text in light of what he has accomplished?

## EXAMPLE STUDY:

### TEXT - 1 JOHN 3

### STUDY THE TEXT - JUST V. 1-3 OF 1 JOHN 3

#### 1. GOD - What does this text tell me about God?

- Loving (v. 1)
- He is a father (v. 1)
- We are somehow his children (v. 1)
- The world doesn't know him (v. 1)
- He's going to make us like him (v. 2)
- He will be seen by us as he is one day (v. 2)
- He will appear (v. 2)
- He's going to complete something in me (v. 2)
- He is worthy to be hoped in (v. 3)
- He is pure (v. 3)

#### 2. MAN - What does this text tell me about myself/ mankind?

- God's love is given to me (v. 1) - this means I don't earn it. The fact that it is given is really important.
- He calls me his child (v. 1) - if God calls me that, it means I am that. (v. 1)
- In the same way the world doesn't know God, they won't know me? (v. 1)
- I am beloved. (v. 2)
- I'm not just his child, he is working something even more in me. (v. 2)
- What God is working in me will come to pass (v. 2) - what we will be is important. It's not left up to chance or outside of God's control.
- I will be 'like God' (?) and it will happen because I will see God as he is. (v. 2)
- I can hope in God. (v. 3)
- I need to be purified as God is pure. (v. 3)

**3. COMMAND/SIN/EXAMPLE/PROMISE** - In this text, is there a command to obey, a sin to avoid, an example to follow, or a promise to claim?

- P: God's love has been given (v. 1)
- P: I've been given the identity of child (v. 1)
- E: Live as a beloved child (v. 2)
- C: Hope in God (v. 3)
- C: Purify myself (v. 3)

**4. JESUS** - The Bible is all about Jesus. He is the only one who has perfectly obeyed every command of God, he is the only one who has lived without sinning, he is the example of perfection, and he is the only person who deserves the promises given...and he did all of this in our place. How do we see that in this text?

- God's love is shown to me through Jesus who died in my place.
- I don't deserve to be a child, but Jesus gave me his position and took my position at the cross.
- I don't always live perfectly...Jesus did in my place.
- I don't always hope in God, but Jesus perfectly obeyed the will and command of God in my place.
- I am made holy, purified, through Jesus' shed blood in my place. He took the wrath of God and gave me his perfection.

**5. FOLLOW** - Because of Jesus' work in our place and the Spirit he has sent to dwell inside us...we are new creations and can actually follow him. How can we now follow Jesus from this text in light of what he has accomplished?

- I can now follow Jesus and know that I have the full and undeserved love of God. I need look no further than the cross to see how much God loves me.
- Because Jesus has already finished the work in my place I can now imitate and obey God as a beloved child.
- Because of what God says about me and what Jesus has done for me, I have a hope that is sure and unshakable.

# A LETTER FROM YOUR PASTORS

You may not know it, but if you are reading this, you are prayed for. Just by picking up this guide it means that God is already at work to show you more of himself. Our hope is that this series guide will point you to Jesus. Whether you have never read a book of the bible and you are considering its claims for the first time, or you have faithfully read through it many times, we want you to see Jesus. At the beginning of the Book of Acts, Jesus tells his followers to wait for the promised Holy Spirit before they start to fulfill the great commission to go into all the world with the gospel. Before you continue in this series guide, will you stop and pray with us?

Father, help me to read these words of your scriptures with faith and clarity. Forgive my doubting heart. Make the advancement of the good news of Jesus the aim of my life. Fill me with your Holy Spirit to give me understanding and a deeper love for you. Amen.

For the fame of Jesus,  
Your Pastors

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# ADVANCE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 13:1-3

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

1. **GOD** - What does this text tell me about God?
2. **MAN/MYSELF** - What does this text tell me about myself/mankind?
3. **COMMAND/SIN/EXAMPLE/PROMISE** - In this text, is there a command to obey, a sin to avoid, an example to follow, or a promise to claim?
4. **JESUS** - The Bible is all about Jesus. He is the only one who has perfectly obeyed every command of God, he is the only one who has lived without sinning, he is the example of perfection, and he is the only person who deserves the promises given...and he did all of this in our place. How do we see that in this text?
5. **FOLLOW** - Because of Jesus' work in our place and the Spirit he has sent to dwell inside us we can actually follow him. How can we now follow Jesus from this text in light of what he has accomplished?



# ADVANCE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 13:4-14:28

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

1. **GOD** - What does this text tell me about God?
2. **MAN/MYSELF** - What does this text tell me about myself/mankind?
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# ADVANCE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 15:1-35

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

1. **GOD** - What does this text tell me about God?
2. **MAN/MYSELF** - What does this text tell me about myself/mankind?
3. **COMMAND/SIN/EXAMPLE/PROMISE** - In this text, is there a command to obey, a sin to avoid, an example to follow, or a promise to claim?
4. **JESUS** - The Bible is all about Jesus. He is the only one who has perfectly obeyed every command of God, he is the only one who has lived without sinning, he is the example of perfection, and he is the only person who deserves the promises given...and he did all of this in our place. How do we see that in this text?
5. **FOLLOW** - Because of Jesus' work in our place and the Spirit he has sent to dwell inside us we can actually follow him. How can we now follow Jesus from this text in light of what he has accomplished?



# ADVANCE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 15:36-41

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

1. **GOD** - What does this text tell me about God?
2. **MAN/MYSELF** - What does this text tell me about myself/mankind?
3. **COMMAND/SIN/EXAMPLE/PROMISE** - In this text, is there a command to obey, a sin to avoid, an example to follow, or a promise to claim?
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# ADVANCE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 16:1-40

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

1. **GOD** - What does this text tell me about God?
2. **MAN/MYSELF** - What does this text tell me about myself/mankind?
3. **COMMAND/SIN/EXAMPLE/PROMISE** - In this text, is there a command to obey, a sin to avoid, an example to follow, or a promise to claim?
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5. **FOLLOW** - Because of Jesus' work in our place and the Spirit he has sent to dwell inside us we can actually follow him. How can we now follow Jesus from this text in light of what he has accomplished?



# **ADVANCE**



**A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS**

## **ACTS 17:1-34**

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

1. **GOD** - What does this text tell me about God?
2. **MAN/MYSELF** - What does this text tell me about myself/mankind?
3. **COMMAND/SIN/EXAMPLE/PROMISE** - In this text, is there a command to obey, a sin to avoid, an example to follow, or a promise to claim?
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# ADVANCE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 18:1-19:20

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

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2. **MAN/MYSELF** - What does this text tell me about myself/mankind?
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# ADVANCE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 19:21-20:16

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

1. **GOD** - What does this text tell me about God?
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# ADVANCE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 20:17-38

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

1. **GOD** - What does this text tell me about God?
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# ADVANCE



A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 21:1-26

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

**STUDY THE TEXT**

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# ADVANCE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

## ACTS 21:27-28:31

**PRAY**

**READ THE TEXT**

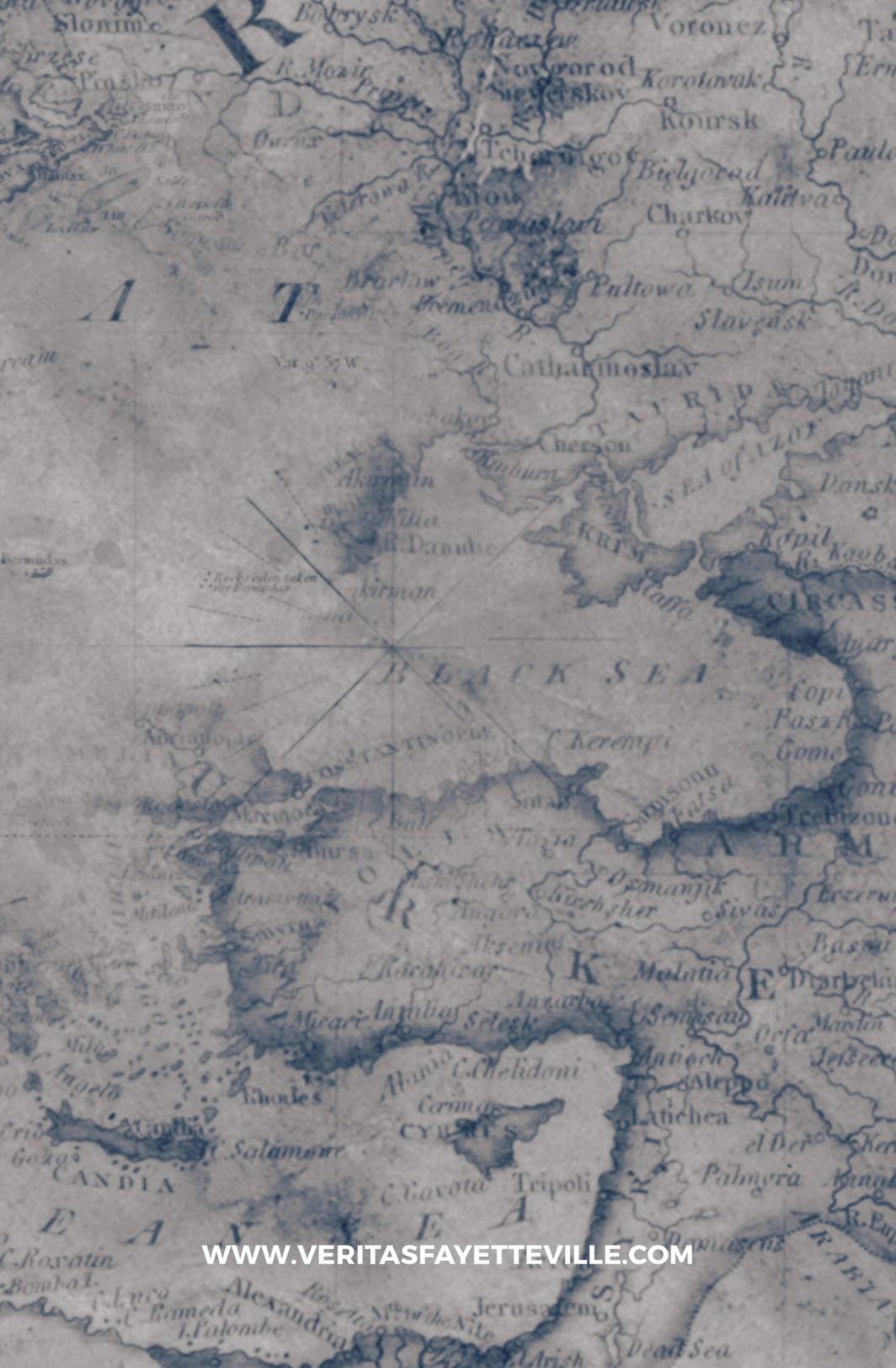
**STUDY THE TEXT**

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