



Acts

Study Pack 01

Pastor Paul Julian

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Introduction

We are going to do an introduction to the book of Acts in our first class and then we'll get into chapter one in our next class. So as a way of introduction, you are going to see that the book of _____.

Luke was a physician. He was a medical physician or medical doctor. That would have been a very different than a medical doctor today, in terms of his skills; nonetheless, that is his background. The book of was written in Rome. We cannot be certain of that, but most likely it was written in Rome. The time of the writing is probably around AD 65.

We know Luke as the companion of the Apostle Paul all through the book of Acts. We also know that Luke wrote the Gospel of Luke. So the book of _____.

The last recorded moments of Christ or the last recorded facts of the life of Christ are found in all four of the gospels. The interesting thing is that when you start the book of Acts, when we come into the book of Acts, what we find is that the way that Luke starts Acts is the same way that all four of the other gospels ended. So, it's this amazing continuation of what was happening when Christ was here. So, what's happened at the end of all those gospels? What was that? I have some pictures for you. This is helpful. This is the Mount of Olives. This is where Christ is going to come back, physically. He is going to come back at his Second Coming (not the Rapture but the Second Coming). This is also from where he ascended into heaven. This is where he lifted off, if you will. What the four gospels conclude with is the ascension of Christ leaving this earth. This is important because in a lot of your Bibles the heading is "The Acts of the Apostles". This is something that someone at some point decided was a good way to describe this book. It is a good way to describe this book.

There have been other titles that have been suggested along the way. Some of them are much longer and they just don't flow and that's probably why they weren't put in your bible.

One is: **The historical establishment of the church by the work of the Holy Spirit.** See what I mean? It just doesn't flow, but what was happening? You are going to see that this is very, very different than what the gospels recorded. Jesus Christ, God in the flesh leaves the planet Earth off of the Mount of Olives. He's gone, but the work of God goes on in a way even more so than when Jesus was here physically.

Here's another one: **The Acts of the Holy Spirit through the apostles.** That's actually a really accurate one because when Christ left he said, "I'm going to give you a comforter. The Holy Spirit is going to come. We're going to see you in a minute where he told them to stay in Jerusalem. Wait there until the Holy Spirit comes because they needed the power of Christ in them to carry out what he had for them to do.

Here's another one: **The Acts of the Risen Glorified Christ Jesus the Lord.** Your Bible says, "The Acts of the Apostles." Was it really just the Acts of the Apostles? Not really at all. It was what they did, but it was what they did through the power of the Holy Spirit. What's the Holy Spirit? It's the spirit form of God. Jesus left, but the power of God did not leave. As a matter of fact, it spread even more because of the form of God that it was in all believers.

This is going to be, I think, a very exciting class; because you're going to get to see what you all know as all almost as just commonplace in the Christian life. You're born again. You received the Holy Spirit. You go on to hopefully serve the Lord, make Him the priority in your life, and honor Him with your life. These people, you are about to witness, are learning all of what I just said in 10 seconds. They're learning for the very first time. They have understood it for the very first time. Why is that important for you to know?

As a part of this introduction you're going to learn what happened. It's a historical account of the beginning of the church. In the process of you learning what happened you're going to learn how it happened, why it happened and what makes it so special of what we have in Christ. I'm hoping that you're not going to just learn about this historical account. I'm hoping you're not going to just learn this historical account, I'm hoping you're going to see the real philosophy behind what local church is, the real philosophy behind what the Christian Life is.

Here's another title: **God's inspired a historical account of the early church.** That's an accurate description as well.

NOTE: The book of Acts covers a period of approximately _____.

The book of Acts, interestingly enough, ends abruptly. I think that's on purpose. I don't think there is any accident as to how the Word of God was written. It ends abruptly, I believe, because the Acts of the Holy Spirit, the acts of what God is doing through the Holy Spirit on planet earth, did not stop. It is still going today right now even here in this room.

Here are a couple of, I would call lenses; if you will, that we need to look through when we understand this book. We're talking about the introduction. We're going to dig into it in great detail, but I want you to understand before we get into it. There are a couple of things that are important. One is the lenses that we look through. What do you mean by that? Well, you know, if I was to say, look way over yonder at this particular thing; you would say, "Man, It's so far." But if I hand you a pair of binoculars, you would say, "Oh! Now I can see it clearly." We also use the word lens to say, "Are you looking at things with the rose colored lens?" Like everything just looks rosy, everything looks great. That's not what this is about. I'm using this to say it's a way of calibrating our thinking so we understand this book properly.

Here's one of the main ones. I'm going to give you two but of the two, this is the most important. This is very critical to understand when you look at the book of Acts. **This is a book of transition.** I'm going to say that probably in every lecture throughout these lectures. It is a book of transition. You have to understand this. We're going to develop this all through this class.

The development of the church in the age of Grace. This is a major transition. You had sacrificing in the temple. You had looking to the cross and now all the sudden the cross. The Christ has come birth, death, burial, Resurrection, all of this happens, and now, we're transitioning into a different dispensation. Not only the Age of Grace but the Church Age. I'm going to hopefully help you see that that is Monumental to the Jewish people. I cannot emphasize that enough. How big of a deal it would be for what they went through. To go from the Age of Law: under the sacrificial system, under the temple worship; into the Age of Grace. The word transitional doesn't do it justice.

You're going to see that the men of God, the apostles, who God was working through during this time. You're going to see that, although they witnessed what God was doing, they didn't always understand exactly what God was doing and how he was doing and why was doing it. They were learning it for the first time. You all, especially if you've grown up in a good teaching church, you've heard these accounts. You've heard these stories. You've heard these different things that these men were witnessing for the very first time. Okay, and so they didn't always fully understand what it all meant. That's why you're going to see some of these things throughout the Book of Acts.

The first church was largely Jewish believers. For the most part, it's Jewish believers. As we go on in the book of Acts were going to see through Peter. We know he was given the keys to the kingdom. He goes to the Gentiles. He opens up the gospel into the gentile world. Thank the Lord that he did. I don't know about

you, but I'm a gentile. Probably most, if not all of you in here are and so we're grateful that the gospel was given.

Here's the other thing, as part of that those lenses that you would look through: That it is transformation. It is a transformation happening. What do you what do you mean by this? Well, we talked about a transition or a transitional book going from one way of God working with mankind into a new way, especially for the Jewish people. Secondly, let me give you this as an idea, sort of as a peek into what we're going to see: We have men who were believers, followers of God. Christ says to Peter and the other fishermen "Follow me!" These guys believe in him, they drop everything, and follow him. They were absolutely convinced that this was Jesus Christ, the Messiah. But when you look at what they did, leading up to the cross, it wasn't all that impressive. You have Peter denying Christ, cutting the ear off of the servant. You've got all these things happening.

When you see what they do in the book of Acts, especially Peter. Then we see what happens to Paul, Saul turned into Paul. There is a huge transformation in their lives. What brought that about? They go from scared followers (They were followers but they were scared) to courageous martyrs. How does that happen? How do you get from A to B on that spectrum?

I will give you the basis of it and then we're going to peel back the layers in this class.

Here's the Basis: The resurrection of Jesus Christ changes everything. The resurrection of Jesus Christ changes everything.

If I talk about the resurrection I have to show you the garden tomb. If you've been to Israel you've seen the garden tomb. It's a special, special place to visit. I know I'm stating the obvious, but when you go to visit the garden tomb and you walk inside, guess what? It's empty. It's empty. One of the things that Dr. Scudder used to say, (My whole life I remember him saying this) "True Christianity is the only religion, in all the world, that even claims to have a risen savior." Every other religion, religious group, or organization in the world that had some prophet, or some leader, or some person that they that they have deified with a worship; and there is a tomb, what is in that tomb? ...he bones of that leader. Christianity is the only one that says, "Our tomb is empty." What I want you to understand and what you're going to see is that: It's all about the resurrection. It changed everything. It changed everything.

All of the Bible is accurate and inspired. This is an important thing to understand about the book of Acts. All of it is accurate, and it is inspired. But listen carefully! Not all of the recorded acts and decisions and behaviors were always the right thing to do. Why does that matter, Pastor Paul? Here's why it matters. You have to be careful when you look at the book of Acts.

And you say, well, if this is what they did at the beginning, for this church age. We'll just exactly mimic all the things that they did.

Well, there's a problem with that. This is where those two lenses that we're looking through. As we understand the book of Acts. This is where those two lenses come in. Number one: It's transitional. We're no longer transitional. We're here. We're in the church age. It's established. We have the written word of God.

So, we can't take the transitional truths of this book and say, "We're going to do that today." It doesn't apply. What we also can't do is say, "Well, every single thing that they did as they were getting established is how we're going to do it." So just because it was recorded doesn't mean we take that as a template and just do it that way in our churches. That's where you get into trouble with some of these churches that are doing things that they say is in the book of Acts. Like yeah, they did that because they didn't know any better, or they made a mistake.

What I love is that through the inspired word of God we get even the mistakes and the blunders of godly people, people that love the Lord. They were sincere and you'll see where they made some mistakes and they are not rebuked for it because it's an honest mistake.

My basketball coach in high school used to say, "If the hustling mistake I'll be okay with it. If it's a stupid mistake a lazy mistake. I'm not okay with it. These are hustling mistakes. These are mistakes where it's the best they knew in their zeal for the Lord. These are the types of mistakes that you'll see in some of those areas.

So there were some specific transitional components that needed to be addressed. Again, these are transitional components. How we get through this age of going from the temple worship to church age. This is all new and how we do that. Even the apostles themselves were learning and growing as they taught these doctrines.

We open up the word of God. We see it all perfectly packaged. We see all of Paul's Epistles to the churches. This is how a church should be run. This is how church government and leadership should be structured. We see all these things throughout the New Testament.

These guys did not have that, and yet God was revealing it to them. He was giving it to them as they're going along. The key verse is Acts 1:8.

This is a brand new dispensation and it has to be done properly. The foundation has to be laid. How is this going to happen? How is the mission going to be accomplished that Christ is saying, He wants them to accomplish? Look at verse 8 of chapter one,

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

And so we see that it's all through the power of the Holy Spirit. What's the mission? Go to all of the earth. You've got the map. I'll just pull up Paul's first missionary journey and you see all those different regions. We look at that a map see Paul's missionary journeys (his journey to Rome) and we kind of breeze past it. But you have to understand the significance of this is that no longer is it the center in Jerusalem around the temple. Something dramatically is about to change. How do they carry all these things out? How are they going to do this? It's through the power of the Holy Spirit. It's through the power of the Holy Spirit.

You're going to see in _____ of the book of Acts where it's "Jerusalem and all Judea." You're going to see this circle of this ripple effect. When you throw the rock in the pond you see those ripples go out. You can see in _____ where it starts to go further out onto _____ . _____ you're going to see for the very _____ it going _____. You're going to see it in this study. That is foreign. Taking the gospel to the Gentiles is foreign. The Gentiles were as shocked as the Jewish people. We don't think of that today and I think it's going to be helpful for you to understand that and in _____, the gospel to the _____.

I want you to look at verse one. I feel like this is a good place to touch on this so that you understand a little bit more what this book is going to be about. Look at Acts chapter 1 and verse 1, it's pretty clear here, this is addressed to a person or there's a personal connotation as to who this is directed to. Okay? And so, this is Luke speaking and he says, "The former treatise have I made" What is the formal treaties? That is just his first book. His first writing which was the Gospel of Luke, "...have I made, O Theophilus,"

Who is Theophilus? That's the million-dollar question. No one totally knows the answer to that. I'm going to get into that in a second. But if you were to go back and you were to look at the very first verses in the Gospel of Luke, it is clear that he wrote that book to Theophilus. So what does he say that the first treatise, that first book that he wrote, pertained to? Look at it, "The first treatise I have made, O Theophilus of all that Jesus..." What is that word? "began."

Now let that stick in your mind for a second and then keep reading, "...all that Jesus began both to do and to teach until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he (Christ) had chosen."

Now, let me just pick this apart for a second. This is really important. First of all, we see this Theophilus and then Luke describes the time frame, if you will, of what he wrote about in Luke. And he does not say, "All that Jesus did." That's what I would have thought it should say. Luke would be saying, "In my first writing I wrote about and shared all that Jesus did." Wouldn't that make sense? He says, "...all that Jesus began."

That's really important because it did not stop when Jesus left earth. It didn't even slow down. As a matter of fact, it accelerated and yet Jesus was not on earth. How did that happen? It happened through the Holy Spirit. How did the Holy Spirit happen? How was any of that possible? It was possible through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The power in the resurrection, what that established for all of history, for all of mankind, for all of us, is the center of everything: the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I want you to understand; Luke isn't saying, "I wrote about what Jesus did. Now I'm going to write about what the apostles did." No! "I wrote about what Jesus began and now I'm about to tell you what Jesus kept doing through the Holy Spirit to the apostles." You see the picture? You see the essence of what he's saying here?

What did he say? What is the time frame of this time line? What are the bookends? "Until the day in he was taken up." We know that's the Ascension. Okay. That's what his first Treatise that he wrote to Theophilus was about. And then look at this (We're going to come back to Theophilus. I'm going to tell you who we think that is or give you some more information.) But I want you to see this while our brains are still in this mode of this continuing on of what Jesus did, of what Jesus began. Look at how he frames it, "until the day he was taken up, after that (after the Ascension). What did he do? "Through the Holy Spirit he gave commandments unto the apostles."

He is teaching them. Their learning of Christ did not stop. It's just that before he was taken up into heaven he is sitting there like we are today and they're talking and learning. They're watching him work. Guess what? It's by sight. The moment he ascended to heaven, brother, it's by faith. But it's still the same God. It's still the same power. It's the resurrected Christ. But in what form of God? It's through the Holy Spirit in them.

Powerful truth, but look at what he says. He gives them commands. We see how it's happening. Who are the apostles? This is really important. Who are the apostles? It's "the apostles whom he, Jesus Christ, had chosen." This is very important. Why? Because nobody chooses who the apostles are but Jesus Christ. Only he chooses who he is going to work through in this way. And that's in that significant later on.

So who is Theophilus? Well, the name of Theophilus or that word means: "_____"; or "lover of God". That's important because we don't know for sure whether this was a specific individual with the name Theophilus, or was just a title because we see that sometimes in this timeframe of history. We also know that from that time when Luke wrote the gospel, he uses a couple of other terms to make it seem like this person had a position of authority. But what we do know is that it means "the friend of God" or "lover of God".

In Luke 1 he said he use the word “most excellent”. For that reason we think it was part of a title. Some have suggested that this one an individual and that the Gospel of Luke was written to him in order to bring him to Christ. And then the book of Acts was written to this person in order to help him grow.

But I don't want to limit it in a sense that it's just written to this one person and therefore it is not specifically for us. All of the word of God is written to all of us. All the written word of God is written to all of us. Specifically though, whenever you see in scripture just like when Paul wrote to a particular Church, it would behoove us to ask, “What was that church? What was the background? What's the context? What was going on there?”

What I do love about this Theophilus is he's a lover of God. You're a child of God. So my question would be this, Do you love God? Are you a lover of God? Are you a friend of God? If you're a child of God, you are a friend of God. You're no longer his enemy. So you can put your name on that blank.

When Luke says, “O Theophilus, This is what I want to explain to you. This is what I want to share with you.” I want you to understand that it is to all people who are the friend of God and that's every believer. What a treasure it is that Luke put it that way under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and that it is for all of us. For certain we are a friend of God, and it is up to us as we strive for him, as we live for him, to be one that loves God and loves him with everything that we have.

Luke continues the story of Jesus in in the book of Acts but we see that those commandments were given to the apostles in a different way. It's through the Holy Ghost. Now this is the new method of instruction in righteousness. Jesus began in the flesh. He gave them these commandments when he talked of these things.

What's interesting is that when he was here, physically they struggled with their faith in understanding what he was going to do. Then he goes to the cross. He pays for our sin and is buried. He rises again. He teaches them for a little while there and then he leaves. Now they seem to have no trouble with their faith yet they cannot see Jesus. How does that happen?

Well, again, I'm going to tell you: The Resurrection, number one, and number two, the Holy Spirit is in them. We take that for granted; what it means to have the Holy Spirit in us. It's a tremendous blessing. It's a tremendous blessing.

So they learn those Commandments. What were those Commandments? What were those things that these Apostles learned? It's all written in the New Testament. It's in your Bible. We're going to see a lot of it in the book of Acts, but it's in your Bible: Those truths, those new doctrines about this new church and growing in Christ, and the new nature, the old nature, the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. None of this existed in the Old Testament. So these commandments, these teachings, these truths are coming to them through the Holy Spirit.

I want to show you what Paul mentions of this. I want to understand this transition of Jesus being there physically and now he's not there. Paul spoke of this. Turn to 2nd Corinthians 5:16

Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.

It seems like a very confusing verse. We don't know any man. We knew Christ but now we don't know him. What is he talking about? Paul is speaking about the change of vision from earthly to spiritual because salvation, through the resurrection, changes our view of both men and Christ. Put that in their terms. They saw Christ physically. So now go back to this verse. What does it mean?

Well, what you see of man in the flesh is really not that person. They look good. Their life is all together. They seem happy. But what is their spiritual condition? They are a sinner. They need a savior. That's what Paul is saying. When you start to see through Christ, when you start to see through truth, through spiritual eyes you are seeing every man is a sinner that needs a savior.

Well, how does that spiritual vision apply to Christ? They knew him in the flesh. They saw him do miracles. But no longer is this just the physical man walking earth. He's the son of God, but the physical fleshly man that we knew from Galilee is a very different person that we are now seeing and understanding. Why, because he took on our sin, He was buried, and He rose again. Now, he's saying, we have got this heavenly savior that we can follow and the Holy Spirit is in us. What a joy! What a truth!

Look at verse three, Acts 1:3. . . To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion (after the death of Christ) by _____, being _____, and _____
_____ the things pertaining to _____.

The ministry of Christ during those 40 days between the resurrection and the Ascension, in some ways, (now hear me carefully on this), in some ways, had more implications for believers than the teaching had during the time of his earthly ministry. Salvation was now purchased. The resurrection had happened. The resurrection was at the center of every mission, message and doctrine taught by the apostles. Get that clear guys: the resurrection was at the center of every mission, message, and doctrine taught by the Apostles. It was an established fact, and the proofs were infallible proofs. It could not be denied.

The proofs of the Resurrection silenced every critic, and answered every claim. We're going to actually even see in this book of Acts that Saul of Tarsus, the one who was killing Christians, was silenced. He was proved wrong. The resurrection proved that Jesus was The Messiah. Powerful! Powerful! I'm hoping that you can kind of sense that when we go back in time and we look at how this all took place. Have you ever wondered how long it took before the critics had a little bit more leverage? Let me tell you what I mean. Luke says there were infallible proofs. In other words, nobody could disprove it. The proofs were there. You couldn't deny it. All you could say was, "I don't believe," but you couldn't deny it. The proofs were there.

How long did it take before the eyewitnesses were no longer physically on Earth or the people who knew the eyewitnesses were no longer physically on earth? Ever wondered that about Noah? You have Noah's family get off the ark. How long did it take before they said there was no flood?

I don't know, but I do know that there was all good long while. For sure, all through the book of Acts, you could not disprove the resurrection. There were so many people that knew it to be fact. There were so many people that knew it to be the truth and the proofs that you could give would way out weight anybody who would deny it. The resurrection is everything. Have I said that a few times?

1 Corinthians 15:1-8, we're going to read through this quickly. This is Paul speaking. I want you to see how big of a deal this resurrection is:

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel, which I preached to you, which you have also received and wherein ye stand, ²By which you are saved, if you keep in memory, what I preached unto you unless you believe in vain. ³For I delivered unto you (This is the gospel that Paul gave to these people.) first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, ⁴And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.

Paul is saying this is everything. Is it something he came up with? No, it's what he received of Christ and now he is delivering it to them. Look at what he says,

⁵And that he (meaning Christ) was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: ⁶After that, he was seen of above 500 brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain until this present, but some are fallen asleep.

Do you see what he's talking about? There are hundreds and hundreds of people who saw the risen Savior. There are a few that fall asleep. There are a few that have passed on. They died, but even at this point of his writing he's saying, "You don't stand a chance if you're trying to claim that Jesus didn't rise again.

After that, he was seen a James; then of all the apostles ⁸And last of all he was seen of me also, as one born out of due time.

Christ is no longer walking on this earth. I can't wait to see him face-to-face. I'm looking forward to that day. But I will tell you that he is just as much at work. It is through the Holy Spirit that he is doing that. John. 14:12 says,

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

This is a game changer. This is a game-changer because there are going to be great works that are happening. He's saying, "I have to go to the father so the Holy Spirit can come." He's not saying, "This is what you are stuck with." He's saying, "I have got this amazing program for planet earth to reach people for Christ and it's about to happen.

Handouts given for the class: 3 Maps, The Journeys of Paul, A booklet of names of individuals and places with the passage where they are mentioned. The instructions on how to use it are in the front of the booklet. Sometimes the same name is used for different places. I thought it would be helpful to have the places with the verses where they are mentioned.

Over 100 different cities and places are mentioned by Dr. Luke. That's astounding! All of the ministry of Christ in the gospel record is centered in this one little area of Israel. That's about to change. The resurrection account is going to be proclaimed in every town, every city, every region.

Who did Christ call unto him? John 12:32

If I be lifted up, was he lifted up? (Did he rise again? Yes, he sure did) from the earth, I will draw all men unto me.

Salvation is available to all men: Every people, every language, every country, every city, every town, every group, and every ethnicity. It is the gospel given to man. It is the grace of God available to all men. What a wonderful truth!

This agenda has not changed. The agenda that was given, that was that was laid down by the apostles hasn't changed. It's the very essence of what we do.

Those transitional truths that I mentioned: Christ's earthly kingdom and the restoration of the House of _____ **(the second king of Israel)** is what the Jewish people knew. They knew of this promised Kingdom was to be forever. They lived with that understanding. They look for that promise. The

Messiah was going to come to set up that Kingdom. During this transitional time it didn't quite all fall into place the way they thought.

We're also going to see this interesting thing called baptism: John's baptism, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and water baptism. There's also transformational truth that is just as relative to us today. There are truths that applied then and they still apply today.

There's an interesting Dynamic that is going to unfold. The book of Acts is the hub from which all of Paul's letters are attached. It would be impossible to read all of Paul's epistles and figure out when he wrote them and the circumstances at the time he wrote them without the book of Acts. The book of Acts is the Hub that provides perspective and synchronization to all of the letters that Paul wrote to the churches. It's really, really critical. I think you're going to see that unfold. One Bible scholar said the book of Acts is the connecting link between the four gospels, the Epistles, and the rest of the New Testament.

The simple gospel of grace was proclaimed all across the known world and the historical evidence found in this great book prove out that the same message of salvation applies to all people of all nations.

Normally, the rule of debate is to give as little detail to your opponent as is necessary and hammer home the points that are certain because your opponent will try to undermine your argument by attacking the details you have provided. In terms of a document, the more detail you give the greater the chances a critic will have to undermine the validity of the document.

There's an interesting thing about the book of Acts. It is loaded with details. It invites the skeptic to prove it wrong. It's the word of God. That's what I love about the book of Acts. The details that Luke gives are not just about the resurrection. Even in some of the missionary journeys of Paul: the nautical things that he gives of those times are unbelievable! It literally is like God through the Holy Spirit is telling Luke, "Put everything out there and then just let it stand," and IT DOES!

Critics have tried to pick a part of this book. They've tried to pick apart the whole Word of God, but even Bible scholars have tried to pick apart some of the things that Luke says and it doesn't seem like that's possible. The more they dig, the more they study, sure enough: There it is.

The book of Acts is the heartbeat of the church. While not every historical account within this book is meant to serve (Listen carefully this!) as a model of method it does serve as a Divine calibration of the heart where our passion for ministry can be defined. This is where we learn our philosophy of ministry.

I was sharing with Pastor Scudder the other day that roughly a year ago I was talking with Dr. Scudder. We were by some other pastors. Dr. Scudder, Sr. was sharing with these new pastors. He was trying to encourage them in their churches. He said, "When I started Quentin Road Baptist Church I went to the book of Acts and I read it, and I read it. And he said that is what I went by to say, "This is the kind of church we're going to have. He didn't mean every little thing they did in a church we're going to do. What I meant was: What is the heart of the church? What is the heart of the pastor? What are we going to major on? What are we going to focus on? What is going to be the heartbeat of our church? It's found in the book of Acts and I think you're going to enjoy seeing that.

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