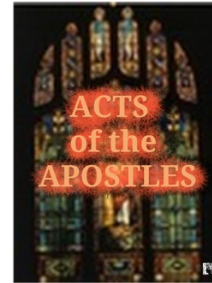


## Ways to do the church-wide Acts Bible Study

1. Use this insert by yourself or with a partner.
  - Commit to spending 1 hour each week
  - Consider partnering with someone to whom you are not related
2. Form a small group to discuss the questions together
3. Come to the retreat on Saturday, January 30 from 9-3 and watch the Bible on video and talk about it with others. Lunch included.
4. Use the online Bible Study at [www.StPetersSaints.com](http://www.StPetersSaints.com)
  - Find the Practicing our Faith page and then click on Reading the Bible

Pathways for Faith  
[www.StPetersSaints.com](http://www.StPetersSaints.com)



## *DISCOVERING OUR MISSION* CHURCH-WIDE STUDY OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Insert #5

### Jesus appears to Saul and the Church grows

Saul, who was guarding the coats of those who stoned Stephen, was full of zeal against the followers of Jesus. Round 'em up and kill 'em, was his motto. But God had other plans. The risen Jesus stopped Saul in his tracks and changed the course of his life.

Saul's witness to Jesus Christ was confirmed by the community of apostles, but his abrasive manner stirred up conflict in Jerusalem, so the apostles sent him elsewhere. Where there is disunity with regard to the Gospel, the church cannot grow.

Under the leadership of the apostles, the church grew as both Jews and Gentiles heard the story of Jesus and believed in Him as Lord and were baptized.

It was a big step when Peter and other disciples from Jerusalem experienced the Gentiles coming to faith in Jesus by the work of the Holy Spirit. Now salvation was not only for the chosen people, the Jews, but for anyone who trusts in Jesus.

No one was expecting this change, but there is no arguing with God!

- God is full of surprises!
- Watch out for traditions that may be idols — God may knock them over
- Be prepared to welcome those who are different from you
- Be bold in telling the story of Jesus

**Week 5  
STUDY GUIDE**

**SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS**  
Acts Chapters 9-10

**Read:** Acts chapters 9-10

**For Reflection:**

1. What was Christianity called at first?
2. On whose authority did Saul seek to arrest and kill Jesus' disciples?
3. Who gave Saul new orders? To whom was he sent?
4. How did Ananias equip Saul for his mission?
5. What did Saul do that made the Jewish establishment so mad?
6. What did Saul need to be accepted by the disciples in Jerusalem?
7. What happened when he stirred up conflict in Jerusalem?
8. What caused the church to multiply?
9. What did Peter do that showed the Spirit of Jesus was in him?
10. How did Peter discover God's purpose toward Gentiles?
11. How was Peter's storytelling the same as in chapter 2? Different?
12. What was the outcome of his preaching?

**Go Deeper:**

1. How does God equip us for discipleship?
2. Is what Jesus does among us worth crowing about? Why?
3. How closely do believers live together in our world?
4. If an angel spoke to you as to Cornelius, what would you do?
5. What traditions might God be calling us to let go of so that the Gospel can reach the lost?
6. What signs of the Holy Spirit do you see in your life?
7. What does this Word suggest for the life of St. Peter's

**For Further Study go to [www.StPetersSaints.com](http://www.StPetersSaints.com)**

Write your responses to the following questions and tear off this page and leave it in the Response Box at church, OR leave them on the feedback page of the Pathways for Faith website, OR e-mail them to Chris Kann [qcic5131@comcast.net](mailto:qcic5131@comcast.net).

1. What is God doing in these two chapters?
2. What are people doing in these two chapters? (sometimes at odds with God)
3. What lessons are here for the church in that day?
4. What lessons are here for the church today?
5. What is this telling us about a possible vision purpose for our ministry?