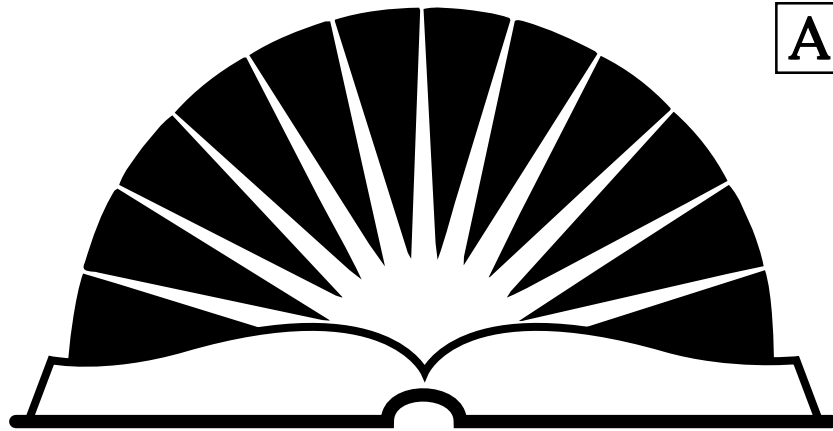


ACTSSBEL



JOY OF LIVING
BIBLE STUDIES

Acts

Youth Bible Study

by Pat Kampenga

Sample
Lesson

ACTS - WEEK ONE

NO DISCUSSION LESSON

15 - 20 minutes free time - games, fellowship

15 - 20 minutes snack and group recreation: SIMPLE RELAY

You will need a ping pong ball, a large spoon, and a container for each team. With masking tape, mark start and finish lines on the floor. Divide class into teams. Give the first player in each team a spoon. Place a ping-pong ball on the floor in front of each team. Place the containers across from each team at the Finish Line. At the signal, the first player picks up the ball with the spoon, races to the finish line, drops the ball in the container, races back to the next in line, hands off the spoon, and goes to the end of the line. The next player races to the container, picks the ball out of the container with the spoon, returns to the next team player, hands off the spoon and ball, goes to the end of the line. The next player repeats the first sequence. Play continues until one team has all team players in their starting positions.

15 - 20 minutes discuss class rules and goals

to end of class CRAFT: PAPER PLATE BUTTERFLY

MATERIALS:

newspaper
tempera paints
plastic spoons
clear tape

bowls
paper plates
black pipe cleaners

Cover work area with newspaper. Pour paint into bowls. Fold the paper plate in half and reopen. Give each child a plastic spoon. Have them pour paint onto one side of the fold, not too much, about 1/4 teaspoon each of several colors. Have them fold the plate along the crease previously made, and gently press up and down the folded plates. They may use their hands or fists to rub the plate back so the paint squishes inside. Open the plate and see the butterfly. Allow to dry in the sun for about 15 minutes or more. Tape the pipe cleaners onto the tops of the butterfly as antennae.

ACTS LESSON 1

Before you begin your lesson:

- a. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to help you answer the questions.
- b. Some questions may be too hard; it's ok to write "I don't know."
- c. Think about what God's Word is telling you for today.
- d. With some questions, it might be helpful to write the scripture verses on your paper.

Read Acts chapter one, verses 1 - 5.

When you run in a relay race, a baton is passed from one runner to another. The book of Acts is like that relay race. In Acts, the baton is the gospel, and it will be carried from Jerusalem to the known world and onto us today. The story in the book of Acts is a history of the early church.

1. RISKY: The book of Acts was written by a man from Greece called Luke. What did Luke write to Theophilus about in his first book of the Bible? Can you name that other Bible book?

2. CHALLENGE: What facts does Luke list in Luke 1:1-2 to prove Jesus had lived?

3. After Jesus' resurrection, how many days did He stay on the earth?

4. From the following scriptures, who are the people who saw Jesus after His resurrection?

Matthew 28:8,9

John 20:19

1 Corinthians 15:5,6

5. **HARD:** When did Jesus give them the command to stay in Jerusalem and wait for God's gift? Was it before or after His resurrection? See Luke 24:33,34,49 for your answer.
6. What does John 16:13 say is one of the things the Holy Spirit will do?

Read Acts chapter 1, verses 6 - 11.

1. The disciples asked the risen Jesus if it was time to rebuild Israel. Who is the only one who knows the time and date when this will happen?
2. What did Jesus tell His disciples they would receive from the Holy Spirit, and what will He help them do? This message is for Christians today, too.
3. How did Jesus get to heaven?
4. After Jesus went to heaven, who spoke to the disciples?

5. How will Jesus return to earth?

6. In Luke 17:26-36, Jesus talks about His return. What did He say in verses 26,28, 30 people will be doing when He returns?

Read Acts chapter 1, verses 12 - 26.

1. RISKY: How far was the Mount of Olives from Jerusalem?

2. Who was in the room and what did they do there?

3. How many were in the room?

4. What happened to Judas, the man who turned in Jesus?

5. How was Mathias chosen to take Judas' place?

ACTS - WEEK TWO

DISCUSSION LESSON 1

15 - 20 minutes free time - games; fellowship;

15 - 20 minutes snack and group recreation: FOLLOW THE STEPS

A variation of the old “Twister” floor game. You will need at least 10 footprints. On four of the prints write one letter of the word ACTS. Add them to the other prints and toss onto the floor. One person at a time places one foot on a footprint and tries to spell ACTS. It is OK to step on an unmarked footprint, but ACTS needs to be spelled in order. Give each player a turn. The one who does it wins. If there is more than one winner, you may time the players to see who can spell ACTS first.

15 - 20 minutes discuss LESSON 1

to end of class CRAFT: PICTURE ART EXPERIMENTS

MATERIALS:

newspapers
art or white paper
acrylic paint
candles
paint brushes
bowls/containers
rags/paper towels
drinking straws

“Stamping” objects:
plastic berry baskets
large safety pins, coins
paper clips, buttons
(use your imagination!)

Cover work area with newspapers. Spread the art paper with paint (one color or different colors at random). Press a berry basket or any of the other objects into the paint. A pattern can be made or done randomly. Allow to dry.

On another sheet of dry paper, use the candle stick to draw an object, boat, car, person, whatever the student wants to draw. But do not cover the whole sheet. Drop a glob of watered down paint onto the paper. With the straw blow the paint all over the paper. Use more paint as needed. The paint will not adhere to the wax drawing.

ACTS — LESSON 1 ANSWERS

Read Acts chapter one, verses 1 - 5.

When you run in a relay race, a baton is passed from one runner to another. The book of Acts is like that relay race. In Acts, the baton is the gospel, and it will be carried from Jerusalem to the known world and onto us today. The story in the book of Acts is a history of the early church.

1. RISKY: The book of Acts was written by a man from Greece called Luke. What did Luke write to Theophilus about in his first book of the Bible? And, can you name that other Bible book? Verse 1: “Dear friend who loves God: In my first letter I told you about Jesus’ life and teachings.” The other book was the Gospel of Luke. [Although *The Bible for Children* calls the recipient of this letter the “friend who loves God,” Theophilus was very likely a real person, possibly a Greek who worked for the Roman government and a new convert to Christianity. Luke was a doctor according to Colossians 4:14.]
2. CHALLENGE: What facts does Luke list in Luke 1:1-2 to prove Jesus had lived? Written accounts, records of reports made by the disciples, many others reports, and the fact that he checked everything out himself.
3. After Jesus’ resurrection, how many days did He stay on the earth? Verse 3: “After Jesus died and rose again, he appeared to his apostles for a period of 40 days. He proved to them that he was actually alive. He showed them in many ways that he was really there with them. During these times, he talked to them about the Kingdom of God.”
4. From the following scriptures, who are the people who saw Jesus after His resurrection?

Matthew 28:8,9 “The women ran from the tomb. They were afraid, but also filled with joy. They rushed to find the disciples to give them the angel’s message. And as they were running, suddenly Jesus was there in front of them. ‘Good morning!’ he said. And they fell to the ground before him. They held his feet and worshiped him.”

John 20:19 “That evening the disciples were meeting behind closed doors. They were still very afraid of the Jews. Suddenly Jesus was standing there among them!”

1 Corinthians 15:5,6 “He was seen by Peter. Later he was seen by the rest of the Twelve. After that, more than 500 Christian brothers saw him at one time. Most of them are still alive, though some have died by now.”

5. HARD: Did Jesus give them the command to stay in Jerusalem and wait for God's gift before or after His resurrection? See Luke 24:33,34,49 for your answer. Verses 33,34: "Within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem. The 11 disciples and the other followers of Jesus were there. They greeted them with these words, 'The Lord has really risen! He appeared to Peter!'" Verse 49: "And I am going to send the Holy Spirit upon you. It will happen just as my Father promised. Don't begin telling others yet. Stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes. He will fill you with power from heaven."
6. What does John 16:13 say is one of the things the Holy Spirit will do? "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not be giving you his own ideas. He will be passing on to you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future."

Read Acts chapter 1, verses 6 - 11.

1. The disciples asked the risen Jesus if it was time to rebuild Israel. Who is the only one who knows the time and date when this will happen? Verse 7: "The Father sets those dates," he replied. "Such things are not for you to know."
2. What did Jesus tell His disciples they would receive from the Holy Spirit, and what will He help them do? This message is for Christians today, too. Verse 8: "But the Holy spirit will come upon you. And you will receive power to speak about me with great effect. You will be my witnesses to the people in Jerusalem. You will also go throughout Judea, to Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. You will tell everyone that I died and then rose again from the dead."
3. How did Jesus get to heaven? Verse 9: "Not long after this, Jesus rose into the sky. He went up into a cloud, leaving them staring after him."
4. After Jesus went to heaven, who spoke to the disciples? Verse 10: "They were straining their eyes for another look at him. But suddenly two white-robed men were standing there with them."
5. How will Jesus return to earth? Verse 11: "They said, 'Men of Galilee, why are you standing here staring at the sky? Jesus has gone to Heaven. And someday he will come back again, just as he went!'"
6. In Luke 17:26-36, Jesus talks about His return. What did He say in verses 26,28, and 30 people will be doing when He returns? "When I come back, the world will not be thinking about the things of God. They will be like the people were in Noah's days. And the world will be as it was in the days of Lot. People went about their daily business. They kept on eating and drinking, buying and selling, farming and building. Yes, it will be 'business as usual' right up to the hour of my coming."

Read Acts chapter 1, verses 12 - 26.

1. RISKY: How far was the Mount of Olives from Jerusalem? Verse 12: “They were at the Mount of Olives when this happened. So they turned and walked the half mile back to Jerusalem.” [Some translations will say “a Sabbath day’s walk, or about 3/4 miles.” This was the distance allowed by law for “work” on the Sabbath.]
2. Who was in the room and what did they do there? Verses 13,14: “There they held a prayer meeting in an upstairs room of the house where they were staying. Here is the list of those who were at the meeting: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (also called “The Zealot”), Judas (son of James) and the brothers of Jesus. Several women, including Jesus’ mother, were also there.”
3. How many were in the room? Verse 15: 120.
4. What happened to Judas, the man who turned in Jesus? Verses 18,19: “He bought a field with the money he was given for turning Jesus in. While he was there, he fell down and burst open, spilling out his bowels. The news of his death spread rapidly among all the people of Jerusalem. And they named the place “The Field of Blood.”
5. How was Mathias chosen to take Judas’ place? Verse 26: “Then they drew straws. In this way Matthias was chosen. And he became an apostle with the other 11.” [This action may be from Proverbs 16:33. Instead of straws, the lots could have been stones with the names of the two men written on them, then placed in a container and shaken about. The first to fall out was the way God chose it to fall. We must remember, the men were equal in ability; prayer had been given; and now to find the Lord’s choice. This was the last time this method of determining God’s choice is mentioned in the scriptures.]