



SAINT MARTIN'S CHAPEL

### Summer Bible Study (Nine Weeks)

## Book of Acts

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This church-based bible study taken from the Book of Acts will equip you with biblical truth and guide you to practice it daily as you continue your walk of faith in Christ. Bring your own Bible (BYOB) and your toughest, most pressing questions each Thursday at 5:00pm starting May 27 and ending on July 22.

We would like to thank Bethany Church (Singapore) for providing this plan. For more information, please visit: <http://www.bcs.org.sg>.

### WEEK ONE: MAY 27 (Acts 1-3)

- [Acts 1](#)
- [Acts 2](#)
- [Acts 3](#)

Devotional

#### BEING A WITNESS OF CHRIST ([Acts 1:8](#))

*But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1:8) NIV*

When God created man, He gave him power over everything on earth. This power was a divine power because man was created in the image of God. But the fall of man into sin removed that divine power. The power source was disconnected.

Imagine if the electronic devices we use every day are disconnected from the existing energy sources. No matter how sophisticated the goods are, they will become useless. A reliable source of energy is very important in our life. Likewise, in our spiritual life, we need a source of energy. Only the power of God can supply our soul and spirit.

Jesus Christ has come to this world to reconcile us—sinful men—with a holy God. His crucifixion and blood redeemed us and cleansed the sin that caused us separation from that spiritual source of life. He has been taken up into heaven so that the promise of God is fulfilled upon the believers: The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, the Helper and Comforter came to dwell with His people.

The Holy Spirit is the power that encourages us to carry out the task for proclaiming salvation and witnessing Christ. It is the power that enables us to live in the truth and to be a channel of love for many people.

Are you willing to accept that power? It is simple: believe, repent, and accept Jesus to be your God. Then ask the Lord Jesus to flow the power of His Spirit to fill you, and accept it with faith.

***Be witnesses of Christ, who can bring salvation to others.***

## WEEK TWO: JUNE 3 (Acts 4-6)

- [Acts 4](#)
- [Acts 5](#)
- [Acts 6](#)

Devotional

**ETERNAL SALVATION** ([Acts 4:12](#))

*Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:12)*

After the apostles and disciples of Jesus experienced the baptism and fullness of the Holy Spirit, their hearts were purified and on fire to proclaim the greatness of God to the people around them. They were working more diligently for the Lord, serving, teaching, and healing the sick by the power of the Holy Spirit. This made more and more people believe and follow God's ways. God was with them all, with signs and wonders

The fullness of God's Spirit sets our hearts on fire for Him giving us a strong impulse within to tell about His goodness, greatness, and love that redeems people from their sin.

By God's spirit we channel His love through our words to others. His power flows to us leading us in truth, affecting our behavior with His light. People will feel blessed by Him, through us.

The Holy Spirit leads and guides us to meet people we have not known before, and are ready to be harvested for Jesus. Will you be a partner with God to share His love and truth?

***Experience the Holy Spirit, for only in Jesus is eternal salvation.***

### WEEK THREE: JUNE 10 (Acts 7-9)

- [Acts 7](#)
- [Acts 8](#)
- [Acts 9](#)

Devotional

**LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT** ([Galatians 5:25](#))

*If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. (Galatians 5:25)*

Just as caffeine and other supplements can give immediate energy, likewise, the fullness of the Holy Spirit gave boldness to the apostles to witness the Gospel of Salvation. They were increasingly active in their proclamation of Jesus.

Stephen was an apostle who was so brave in preaching the gospel of salvation, even in the face of death. Stephen was not afraid, because he believed there was an eternal life with Jesus.

Philip experienced a supernatural event by the power of the Holy Spirit, witnessed about salvation through Jesus so that the Ethiopian ruler repented, believed, and was baptized.

God's holy courage will enable us to do whatever He asks because His plan in us is greater than our own interests. Experiencing the fullness of the Holy Spirit is to surrender our lives totally to God.

The Holy Spirit will fill us, move, and work within us if we surrender all to Him and together with the Holy Spirit we will do great things. Entrust your life to be led by Him. Bind yourself to the Holy Spirit.

***Do not be only a believer, but be one who can be entrusted by God to do His work***

### WEEK FOUR: JUNE 17 (Acts 10-12)

- [Acts 10](#)
- [Acts 11](#)
- [Acts 12](#)

Devotional

**MESSENGER OF SALVATION** ([Acts 10:35](#))

*But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. (Acts 10:35)*

The God whom we worship is the living God. He can walk with us, listen to us, and speak to us. How does God speak to us? He can speak directly, through our conscience, through dreams, and by other people. There are no limits on the ways God can speak to us.

God gave an order to Peter to go and preach the gospel of salvation to the Gentiles—people who were not Jewish. The disciples and apostles were initially shocked at what Peter told them, but finally understood after he explained that the gospel of salvation was also for all nations.

Christ's commission to preach the gospel to all nations was just beginning. The work of the Holy Spirit through all believers continues this message of salvation today.

God's love is for all people and all nations.

**Are you allowing the Holy Spirit to work through your life to spread His good news of salvation?**

## WEEK FIVE: JUNE 24 (Acts 13-15)

- [Acts 13](#)
- [Acts 14](#)
- [Acts 15](#)

Devotional

**PRAISE AND WORSHIP** ([Acts 15:16-17](#))

*After this I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, I will rebuild its ruins, And I will set it up; So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, Says the Lord who does all these things. (Acts 15: 16-17)*

The essence of God's Word is the salvation of mankind all over the earth. Why would God use us, his believers, to be His co-workers? This is a gift God gave us. We are not only saved by Him, but also used to work with Him to bring light to those who are still in darkness.

If one of the world's greatest or most successful people invited you to work with him or her in a business, surely, you would be very excited for that position. Shouldn't we also be excited to join with God in His work?

God's temple is restored within us when we join in His work and live our lives for Him.

When Paul and Silas were imprisoned, what did they do? They sang praises to God and suddenly the power of God went down to the jail and they were set free. Not only that, even the keeper of the prison and all of his family in his house were saved.

When praise and worship are raised wholeheartedly within us, God comes with His holiness, His glory, His power, and His love. God's visitation over and around us changes our lives and sets the prisoners free from the bond of the evil one.

***In the praise and worship we raise; the power and holiness of God comes alive.***

## WEEK SIX: JULY 1 (Acts 16-18)

- [Acts 16](#)
- [Acts 17](#)

- [Acts 18](#)

Devotional

**SALVATION FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD** ([Acts 16:31](#))

*So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." (Acts 16:31)*

The powerful Holy Spirit worked greatly in the midst of the apostles. They taught and ministered, full of power and courage. But this did not mean that their opponents remained silent. They faced many threats that forbid them to talk about Jesus, the Savior. Penalties and imprisonment were ready anytime.

The gospel of God should be preached to everyone. Why? Because Jesus is the only way of salvation. There is no name that can save us besides the name of Jesus. That is why Paul and Silas were enthusiastic about delivering God's salvation plan. Though the Jews believed in the God of Abraham and kept the law of Moses, they could not do all perfectly by those laws. Thus, religion and religious activities cannot save us.

Salvation is not man's work; it is the Lord's work, only by His grace. Our part is to believe and act on what we believe—that is faith. The incident of the prison keeper who finally received salvation was a testimony of God's love for him and his family. Imagine! He had almost committed suicide, but it was thwarted because Paul and the others were still in prison. God settled everything, because of His love.

The keeper of the prison was saved because of God's love, and he received salvation because of his faith. If we truly believe and repent, then one by one in His time, we can see each of our family members saved by the love of God. How? Do not ever think about how. Just do your part. Keep faithful and live rightly and trust God.

***The cross and the empty tomb give full salvation to those who believe.***

## WEEK SEVEN: JULY 8 (Acts 19-21)

- [Acts 19](#)
- [Acts 20](#)
- [Acts 21](#)

Devotional

**LIVING WITNESSES TO TESTIFY** ([Matthew 28:19](#))

*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19)*

When Paul had a personal encounter with Jesus on his way to Damascus, through the supernatural experience, Paul repented and became a true believer. His life was transformed into a very militant apostle. Paul became the most active apostle who worked in God's field in preaching of salvation.

How is our own experience of encountering God these days? Do we still feel the first love as when we first invited Jesus in our lives? At the beginning we were on fire to tell about Jesus—to be an evangelist of God. Does it still exist in us?

After Paul encountered Jesus, he immediately and totally surrendered his life to God's leading. Indeed, it is not easy, but one way we can learn is through fasting. Three important things are praying, giving, and fasting. Why is fasting important for Christians? Because fasting can discipline our body and soul to submit to the direction of God's Spirit by focusing on Him.

Through every profession we have we can please God whether it is in full time ministry, in the market place, or any other workplace. Live out the truth and become light to others so people around you can see Christ through your life. Even in the workplace you can demonstrate the life of Christ and use every opportunity to bring everyone to Jesus.

***To do the great commission of Christ is to be a living witness of His love and grace.***

## WEEK EIGHT: JULY 15 (Acts 22-24)

- [Acts 22](#)
- [Acts 23](#)
- [Acts 24](#)

Devotional

**GUARD YOUR HEART** ([Acts 24:16](#))

*This being so, I myself always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men. (Acts 24:16)*

The Apostle Paul was a member the Pharisees who demanded the strictest obedience to the Jewish Law. As a person of strong character, he was not easily influenced by other teachings. A strong man who is submitted to God will be excellent in ministry.

After his encounter with the Lord, Paul repented and was transformed by the Lord to have a new life. After he repented and left his old belief system, he gained a new faith as a true follower of Jesus.

A pure conscience means a heart that is not hypocritical. Many people call themselves followers of Christ, but do not have pure hearts. Remember, God sees our hearts. Do not try to be a virtuous and devout worshipper to be seen by men and when nobody sees, become a different person. A pure person is someone whose words and deeds are consistent. Paul also knew there were many hypocritical religious teachers and scribes, and he challenged them.

**Keep your heart pure, for God sees the heart.**

## WEEK NINE: JULY 22 (Acts 25-28)

- [Acts 25](#)
- [Acts 26](#)
- [Acts 27](#)
- [Acts 28](#)

Devotional

**TEST OF FAITH** ([Joshua 1:9](#))

*This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. (Joshua 1:9)*

Paul had many journeys during his ministry. Almost all of them were difficult and dangerous. Threats and dangers were everywhere. Why? When everything is good, our flesh becomes stronger to lead our life through self-reliance with no need to depend on God. Therefore, tests and challenges are good to help us remember the Word of God, to trust Him, and to exercise our faith.

God allows Paul to experience challenges, not only from humans, but also from nature. Paul's faith was brought up to the next level through a mighty storm. This was the opportunity for Paul to pray and hear God's instructions.

Storms in our life are ways for us to receive vision and to grow our faith to the next level. The Word of God will remind us to proclaim Jesus, becoming our "rhema", or life.

Even in the midst of storms, we need to strengthen our brothers, especially those who are weary and struggling in their own battle.

**Storms give us opportunity to exercise our faith.**