

Listening Guide

I. Introduction to Part One of the Book of Acts

A. Authorship, Date, and Audience

[1] Who wrote Acts and when?

[2] To primarily what kind of audience?

[3] With the concern that...

B. Purposes of Luke's Second Volume

[4] What major shift occurred in Christianity that Luke records?

[5] What 3 key figures did Luke highlight?

[6] What did Luke defend Christians against? Why were they charged with that?

[7] What are the two main sections of Acts?

C. Outline of Acts

[8] What are the three “movements” in the book?

II. Church in Jerusalem (Ac 1:1-6:7)

[9] The church began exclusively as what kind of entity?

A. Resurrection Appearances and Ascension of Jesus

[10] What is the theological point of these resurrection appearances?

[11] What promise did the angels make to the disciples after Jesus' ascension?

B. Judas' Successor

[12] Why did the apostles appoint someone to replace Judas?

C. Pentecost and the First Christian Sermon

[13] What did the Holy Spirit's coming on the Day of Pentecost "inaugurate?"

[14] What did Luke make clear about the occurrence of tongues?

[15] What four things are contained in the "Salvation Package?" State them in one sentence or phrase each:

a.

b.

c.

d.

D. First Christian Healing and Second Sermon

[16] Who did the healing and sermon in Acts 3 link Peter and the Christian movement with?

[17] What Christian teaching is the apostles' courage and "about face" under persecution a key pointer to?

E. Early Church Structure

[18] Chapters 2 and 4 introduce us to a model of – what?

[19] Even though the model doesn't seem to be mandatory, there is an exemplary concern for the – who?

[20] Who was the rift in Acts 6 between?

[21] To which group did all the first apostles belong?

[22] Which group did the apostles delegate the task of picking leaders from?

III. Church in Judea, Galilee and Samaria (Ac 6:8-9:31)

[23] Who are the three main characters in this section of the Acts story?

A. Ministry of Stephen

[24] In Stephen's speech, the primary purpose seems to be to point out... what?

[25] What happened to Stephen because he suggested that Jews had another way of relating to God?

B. Ministry of Philip the Evangelist

[26] What is the important point that Luke wants us to understand?

C. Conversion of Saul/Paul

[27] Who was the first group of people Paul immediately and surprisingly went back to?

[28] What does the phrase, "...his fellow Hellenistic Jewish countrymen..." tell you – specifically – about these people?

IV. Advances in Palestine and Syria (Ac 9:32-12:24)

[29] What is the most prominent event that dominates these chapters?

[30] What event draws to a close the first half of Acts?

[31] What does the second half of Acts deal with?

Reflection

Record one new fact or insight you discovered in this lesson

Application

Review Section II.A. “Resurrection Appearances”

Dr. Blomberg rightly emphasizes the foundational role Jesus’ resurrection played in the New Testament Church. And it has continued to be a core, central doctrine throughout the Church’s history. Take a few minutes to meditate on what it means that you and I serve a Living, Active Lord and Savior. Read Hebrews 4:12-16 and mark the ways He ministers to us today as our Living High Priest.