

Understand your Bible

Suggested notes

Acts 1

Background to the book of Acts

The book of Acts shows how Christianity spread during the thirty years following the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It shows how the Good News about Jesus Christ spread from Jerusalem to Rome mainly through the work of Peter and Paul.

What we will see in this chapter:

- What Jesus spent 40 days doing with the apostles
- An important question the apostles asked Jesus
- What the disciples did after Jesus left them

1 Read the chapter

2 Questions to help us in our understanding of this chapter. Look at the chapter verses in your Bible and use the questions to help you make your notes.

Chapter verses	Questions (to help with your notes)	Suggested notes
1 to 3	1. What did Jesus spend 40 days doing?	He spent time with the disciples and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive, and spoke about God's Kingdom.
4 and 5	2. What did he tell the apostles to do?	He told them to wait in Jerusalem for God's promise to be fulfilled when they would be baptised in the Holy Spirit.
6 to 8	3. What did the apostles ask Jesus and what was his response?	They asked him if he would restore the Kingdom to Israel at that time. Jesus replied that they weren't to know the time which God had set. But that when they had the power of the Holy Spirit they were to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth.
9	4. What then happened to Jesus?	He was taken up, and a cloud took him from their sight.
10 and 11	5. What were the apostles then told?	They were told that Jesus would come back in the same way they had seen him go.
12 to 14	6. What did the followers of Jesus spend their time doing?	They all willingly devoted themselves to prayer.

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15 to 20 <i>Text note: Peter quotes from Psalm 69 v 25.</i>	7. What did Peter tell his fellow believers about Judas Iscariot?	He told them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Judas' betrayal of Jesus fulfilled prophecy ➤ Judas had bought a field where he came to an unpleasant end ➤ it was necessary to replace Judas as had been predicted in Psalm 69 v 25
21 to 25	8. What did Peter suggest they should do and how did they do it?	Someone who had been with them since the days of John the Baptist was needed to replace Judas. They selected two qualified men and then after praying drew lots.
26	9. Who was chosen?	Matthias was chosen.

3 Related theme: *Jesus ascended to heaven.*

Have a look at these related verses and see this theme running through the New Testament. Make a note of the main point(s) in the verse(s).

Verse	Main point(s)
Mark 16 v 19	Mark tells us that Jesus sat down at the right hand of God.
Acts 7 v 55	Before Stephen is killed he sees Jesus standing at God's right hand.
Hebrews 9 v 24	The letter to the Hebrews tells us that Jesus now appears in God's presence for us.
1 Peter 3 v 22	Peter tells us angels, authorities and powers are now subject to Jesus in heaven.