



**TO THE
ENDS
OF THE
EARTH**

ACTS 13:47

Part II:
A Fourteen Week Study
in the Book of Acts
{Chapters 15-28}

Week 1: Acts 15

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Day One | Acts 15:1-5

What would motivate these brothers to insist on circumcision in order to be saved? In your own words, why isn't it necessary to be circumcised in order to be saved? What are some Biblical laws that people want to ignore in our culture today? How do we know which of the Old Testament laws we must still obey?

Day Two | Acts 15:6-11

In your own words, what is the argument that Paul makes? What do you find most convincing in what he says? How are we saved and forgiven? As you grew in your faith, describe a moment where this concept became more real & meaningful to you. In what ways are you still tempted to rely on yourself for salvation?

Day Three | Acts 15:12-21

How do the events of those days fulfill the prophecy that James references? Ultimately, what does James recommend that they require from Gentiles who put their faith in Jesus? Why do you think he mentions those specific requirements? How has your faith in Jesus impacted your behavior and your choices?

Day Four | Acts 15:22-35

Why would sending this letter by the hands of Silas and Barsabbas have been helpful to the Gentile believers? Where do you seek answers when you are trying to understand moral or religious questions? In what ways can the internet & AI be helpful? What are the dangers of using them as your primary religious resource?

Day Five | Acts 15:36-41

What are your thoughts on this division between Paul & Barnabas? Why was Paul unwilling to take John Mark along with them? When you have experienced division or conflict with a brother or sister in Christ, how have you dealt with it? Is there anyone with whom you need to reconcile or seek to make peace? What is the first step?

Big Picture Questions:

What are some of the big issues that divide Christians today? Do you view them as black & white issues or do you see them as matters of conviction/interpretation?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

Did this week's passage lead you to a sense of praise? Worship? Gratitude? Did it lead to conviction? A need to confess & ask for forgiveness? A request for God's help? Write down a prayer, speaking to God simply & honestly in light of those reflections.

Week 2: Acts 16

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Day One | Acts 16:1-5

What can we learn about discipleship from the relationship between Paul & Timothy? If they were delivering the message that Gentiles do not need to be circumcised, then why did Paul have Timothy get circumcised? Can you share an example of something that is permissible for you to do, but you choose not to do it out of personal conviction?

Day Two | Acts 16:6-10

How do you think the Spirit communicated to them that they should not go into those areas? Share an example when you believe the Spirit was leading you to do, or not do, something. Why do you think that the Spirit led them to Macedonia? How can we position ourselves to receive guidance and direction from the Spirit?

Day Three | Acts 16:11-15

Why did they go outside of the city by the riverside? What are the places and spaces where religious conversation is welcomed and embraced in our culture? According to the passage, what caused Lydia to respond to their message? What is the significance of Lydia and her household getting baptized?

Day Four | Acts 16:16-24

What was the source of the fortune teller's knowledge and power? Why were her owners upset when the demon was cast out? In our culture today, how might Christianity be viewed as a threat to the wealthy & powerful? What argument and accusations did these men use against Paul & Silas?

Day Five | Acts 16:25-40

How did Paul & Silas respond to their beating & imprisonment? Why was the Jailer about to kill himself? If someone asked you "What must I do to be saved?", how would you answer them? How did Paul's Roman citizenship help him in his mission? When you have been wronged by someone, how did you deal with it or address it?

Big Picture Questions:

What does it look like to be led & guided by the Holy Spirit in your everyday life?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 3: Acts 17

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Day One | Acts 17:1-9

What are some Old Testament passages that would point to the need for the Messiah to suffer and rise from the dead? Why would they say that the Christians were turning the world upside down? Why would the accusation that Christians are worshipping another king, Jesus, have caused the city authorities to turn against them?

Day Two | Acts 17:10-15

What made the Jewish people in Berea more noble than those in Thessalonica? As you have studied the Bible, has your faith grown or diminished? Why? Describe a time that you were unsure of something, but came to support it after doing some research. Who do you know that is open to hearing and considering the truth of the Gospel?

Day Three | Acts 17:16-21

What are some of the most prominent and powerful idols in American culture today? Which of them have the greatest impact on you personally? What makes it difficult to speak with unbelievers about Jesus and the Bible? What opportunities, in your daily life, do you have to introduce Biblical truths to people who haven't heard them?

Day Four | Acts 17:22-28

How could you build a connection for people between a vague sense of God (the universe / a higher power / fate) and the One true God of the Bible? Where do you see the longing for God in popular movies, music, books and culture? Do you find it easier to share Jesus with religious or non-religious people? Who is more open to the truth?

Day Five | Acts 17:29-34

In what way is Artificial Intelligence “an image formed by the art & imagination of men”? What are the risks with AI for a new form of idolatry? How does the resurrection of Jesus give us assurance that He will one day judge the world in righteousness? Why do some people accept the truth while others reject it?

Big Picture Questions:

What do you find surprising about Paul’s interactions with these groups of people? How easy is it to predict who will respond in faith and who will reject the truth?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 4: Acts 18

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Day One | Acts 18:1-4

What were some of the things that Paul had in common with Aquila & Priscilla? How did this build a natural connection for him to share the truth with them? Who are some of the people that God has placed in your life who have common interests or experiences? How could you open up spiritual discussions within those relationships?

Day Two | Acts 18:5-11

How do you know when it is time to move on from a relationship? How do you think it impacted Paul's ministry to have so many helpful believers join him in ministry at Corinth? If God already had many in the city who were His people, why did Paul need to keep on teaching and proclaiming the Gospel?

Day Three | Acts 18:12-17

Why wasn't Gallio interested in hearing the case they brought against Paul? Do you think the Roman government was a help or a hindrance to the spread of the Gospel? In what ways does our government today help us to spread the Gospel? In what ways does it hinder us? Why do you think Paul's opponents were so violent?

Day Four | Acts 18:18-23

Paul speaks often of the freedom that we have in Christ, and yet he took a religious vow that involved cutting off his hair. How do you balance your freedom in Christ with religious vows & rituals such as lent, fasting, sabbath, etc? What purpose do they serve? Why do you think he left Aquila & Priscilla in Ephesus?

Day Five | Acts 18:24-28

What lessons can you learn from the way that Aquila & Priscilla approached Apollos and his willingness to receive correction? Describe a time when someone offered you correction. How did you receive their suggestion? Why do many people have a difficult time receiving feedback and correction?

Big Picture Questions:

In this chapter we see Paul's team expanding. Who has God placed in your life as a friend and partner in ministry?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 5: Acts 19

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Day One | Acts 19:1-10

What was lacking in the understanding of the disciples in Ephesus? How might this have impacted the way that they practiced their faith? What are some of the important truths of the Gospel that some who would claim to be Christians don't know or understand? Why was it beneficial for them to withdraw from the synagogue?

Day Two | Acts 19:11-20

Do you find it surprising that God would heal someone through a piece of cloth that Paul had touched? Why or why not? Why weren't the sons of Sceva able to cast out the demon? Have you had any experience with the occult or witchcraft? Do you think that our culture is becoming more or less open to these types of things? Why?

Day Three | Acts 19:21-27

What was the driving motivation for Demetrius and the silversmiths to oppose Paul? What were they afraid would happen? If revival came to America, who are some of the wealthy and powerful groups that might oppose it for reasons of self-interest?

Day Four | Acts 19:28-34

Where else in scripture have you seen uninformed crowds stirred up to oppose God's people? What are some examples of this that we see in our culture today? Instead of chanting "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians", what might an American crowd that is stirred up chant today? What do you see as the great idols of our culture?

Day Five | Acts 19:35-41

What logic did the town clerk use to calm down and disperse the crowd? Do Christians have a reputation for being logical and rational in our culture? In what way does this passage demonstrate how God uses established government to accomplish His will? Have you ever been emotionally swept up into the support of something that you later rejected? Describe what happened.

Big Picture Questions:

How can we make sure that Christianity has a presence in major, influential cities?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 6: Acts 20

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Day One | Acts 20:1-6

How did Paul know when it was time to move on to the next place? What stands out to you about the collection of disciples who are now traveling and working with Paul? What challenges would Paul have to overcome in leading churches in cities all across the region? How has technology made this easier? How has it made it harder?

Day Two | Acts 20:7-12

Describe a time when you became so tired that it put you in a dangerous situation. What do you find most interesting about this account? Why do you think Paul spent so much time speaking with them?

Day Three | Acts 20:13-16

Traveling in the ancient world created many challenges, but what might be some advantages & benefits of those slower forms of travel? Have you ever gone on a long road trip or extended journey? If so, what did you enjoy most about the experience? Why would Paul have wanted to be in Jerusalem for Pentecost?

Day Four | Acts 20:17-31

What stands out to you the most from Paul's speech to the Elders at Ephesus? Do you think his public teaching ministry or his private discipleship made more of an impact on these leaders? Why? What has had the biggest impact on your walk with Jesus? What dangers would threaten the church once Paul was gone?

Day Five | Acts 20:32-38

What kind of example did Paul leave the church as far as greed and generosity? Why is it more blessed to give than to receive? Where have you seen this prove to be true in your own experiences? Can you describe a time that you had to say goodbye to someone, expecting not to see them again? How did it impact you?

Big Picture Questions:

Paul knows his time is coming to an end and he is seeking to finish well. What will finishing well look like for you in your life?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 7: Acts 21

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Day One | Acts 21:1-6

How do you think all of Paul's travel time impacted his ministry? If they were warning him in the Spirit not to continue to Jerusalem, why do you think he continued to go? Can you describe a time when you felt like God was telling you to do something or to avoid something? How was Paul able to create such a strong bond with these people?

Day Two | Acts 21:7-16

Where else have we seen Philip in the book of Acts? What is Agabus communicating in his prophecy about Paul? Where did Paul get the courage to continue forward into certain peril? Can you describe a time when you had to act courageously in the face of danger or difficulty? What motivated you in that situation?

Day Three | Acts 21:17-26

Why would many of the Jewish believers take issue with what Paul had done? How did they recommend that he prove that he still observed the law? What do you think about this recommendation? In order to make peace, have you ever done or participated in something that you would not otherwise have done?

Day Four | Acts 21:27-31

What is the accusation made against Paul? Was it true? Have you ever been falsely accused of something? How did you handle that situation? Can you think of a case in modern times where public opinion seemed more important than the facts? Has there been a time when you jumped to conclusions about someone and found it wasn't true?

Day Five | Acts 21:32-36

How might this uproar affect the tribune of the local cohort? What is his motivation in trying to resolve the conflict? What are some of the ways in which God is using our government to maintain justice and order in our society? Why do you think the crowd was stirred up to such a violent level?

Big Picture Questions:

In this chapter, Paul faces conflict even though he made efforts to keep the peace. As Christians, do we have a responsibility to try to avoid conflict and seek peace? Why?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 8: Acts 22

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Day One | Acts 21:37-22:5

Why do you think that Paul wanted to address the crowd? How did Paul's Roman citizenship benefit him in this situation? How did his Jewish heritage and upbringing benefit him? What advantages or unique gifts has God given to you that you could use for the benefit of His kingdom?

Day Two | Acts 22:6-11

What stands out to you about Paul's description of the Damascus road encounter with Jesus? Why do you think he opens his speech to the violent crowd with this personal story? If you were to share your testimony about coming to faith in Jesus, what would you say? Why is personal testimony such a powerful tool when sharing Jesus?

Day Three | Acts 22:12-16

What do you find most interesting about what Ananias says to Paul? Why was it significant that Paul had a personal vision and encounter with Jesus? What was the first act of obedience that Paul was called to do?

Day Four | Acts 22:17-21

Why did Jesus tell Paul to leave Jerusalem? Have you ever felt like God was telling you to walk away from something or someone? Describe what happened. Can you describe a time when someone you knew went through a radical change? Were you immediately accepting of the change, or were you skeptical? Why?

Day Five | Acts 22:22-29

Why did the crowd react so intensely to what Paul had said? Do you view the Romans as good, bad, or neutral in this entire interaction? Why? Why would it be wrong for them to bind & flog a Roman citizen without a trial? In what ways is being a U.S. citizen similar to being a Roman citizen?

Big Picture Questions:

Describe what it has been like to share your faith in Jesus. What types of reactions have you received from people when they found out that you were a Christian?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 9: Acts 23

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Day One | Acts 22:30-23:11

What similarities do you see between the trial of Paul and the trial of Jesus before His crucifixion? How did Paul use the divisions between Pharisees & Sadducees to his advantage? Why do you think Jesus appeared to Paul and spoke to him following this experience? Describe a time that some encouraging words helped you to keep going.

Day Two | Acts 23:12-15

Why was the hatred of these men so strong towards Paul? Do you find it surprising that the chief priests and elders would go along with this plot? Why? Can you think of modern examples where “religious leaders” have acted in immoral or unethical ways? How can you tell if a religious leader or Pastor is genuine in their faith?

Day Three | Acts 23:16-22

Despite their secrecy, Paul’s nephew heard about the plot. How does this show God’s sovereignty and control of the situation? Why do you think the tribune was motivated to prevent the ambush from happening? Can you describe a time when God allowed you to avoid hardship by providing the right info or help at the right moment?

Day Four | Acts 23:23-30

Why do you think the tribune provided such a significant escort to take Paul to Governor Felix? What do you find interesting in the account that Claudias writes of the events involving Paul? Can you describe a time in your life when help came from an unexpected source?

Day Five | Acts 23:31-35

Paul was completely out of control of his own fate at this point. Can you describe a time when you felt like you did not have control of a situation? What lessons have you learned in situations like that? Do you think Paul felt encouraged or discouraged by this turn of events? Why?

Big Picture Questions:

How do you see the governments & powers here on earth serving to preserve justice & righteousness as God intended? How do you see them falling short?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 10: Acts 24

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Day One | Acts 24:1-9

How were the compliments that Tertullus paid to Felix intended to set up the case he was trying to make? What were the accusations that were made against Paul? Was there any element of truth in the things that they were saying? Why do you think that they chose Tertullus to represent their case?

Day Two | Acts 24:10-16

Why would Paul take comfort in the fact that Felix had been a judge over that land for many years? How does our faith in the forgiveness, grace & mercy of Jesus lead us to greater obedience to the commands found in scripture? What makes it difficult for you to have a clear conscience before God and man?

Day Three | Acts 24:17-21

Can you describe a time that you went out of your way to try to make peace and avoid conflict? What was the result? Why was the resurrection of the dead such a controversial issue amongst the Jewish leaders? How does your belief about the afterlife impact the way that you live?

Day Four | Acts 24:22-23

How do you think Felix developed a rather accurate knowledge of the Way? Do you believe that most people who reject Christian faith do so based on a true understanding or based on misconceptions and misunderstandings of it? Why do you think Felix allowed Paul to have some freedom and help from his friends?

Day Five | Acts 24:24-27

Do you think Felix was ultimately a friend to Paul? Why or why not? Why would the discussion of righteousness, self-control and the coming judgment have been alarming to Felix? Can you describe a relationship you have had with someone who was willing to talk regularly about Christian faith but was unwilling to fully accept it? What would it take for them to become a Christian?

Big Picture Questions:

How has God used seasons of waiting in your life?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 11: Acts 25

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Day One | Acts 25:1-5

Do you think that Festus was aware of their plans to kill Paul? What do you think of the answer that he gave to them? Do you think that starting over with a new Roman leader was good or bad for Paul? Why?

Day Two | Acts 25:6-12

Do you agree with Paul's statement that, "Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar have I committed any offense."? What would you say to someone who says, "I follow God - I don't need to obey man made laws"? Why was it significant that Paul appealed his case to Caesar?

Day Three | Acts 25:13-17

Who was King Agrippa and how was his family connected to the story of Jesus? Why do you think that Festus would've sought the opinion of Agrippa & Bernice on the case against Paul? Has God used someone who was not a Christian as an important part of the story that ultimately led you to faith?

Day Four | Acts 25:18-22

What did you find interesting about the description that Festus gives of Paul's case and situation? Why do you think that Agrippa was interested in hearing Paul himself? We are living in a season where the culture is curious about Jesus. Do you think that is a good thing? What would it take to turn that curiosity into genuine faith?

Day Five | Acts 25:23-27

Why do you think that Agrippa & Bernice arrived with great pomp? What does that tell you about them? How does Festus describe the reason for the gathering that day? Do you think Paul would look forward to the chance to explain his story again? How intentional are you about using opportunities that you get to share your testimony?

Big Picture Questions:

What are the benefits of living in a culture where there is a lot of religious curiosity and openness? What are some of the potential negatives or drawbacks?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 12: Acts 26

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Day One | Acts 26:1-8

Do you think that Paul is genuinely glad to be speaking before King Agrippa? How did Paul's reputation and personal history impact his testimony? Why do you think that Luke would've devoted so much time in the book of Acts to Paul's defense of his ministry before the Jewish & Roman authorities?

Day Two | Acts 26:9-11

How did Paul's original opposition to Christians & the church validate his case for the truth of Christianity? Can you think of other people, either in history or in your personal experience, who were opposed to Jesus before coming to faith in Him? Before you became a Christian, how did you feel about Jesus?

Day Three | Acts 26:12-18

What is interesting or unique about this description of Paul's encounter with Jesus? What does "It is hard for you to kick against the goads" mean? Do you seek to live as both a servant of Jesus and a witness for Him? What does that look like for you in this season of your life? What does it mean to be sanctified by faith in Jesus?

Day Four | Acts 26:19-23

Have you repented, turned to God, and performed deeds in keeping with your repentance? If not, what is holding you back from doing that today? What are some of the Old Testament scriptures that indicate that the Messiah would suffer, be the first to rise from the dead, and proclaim light to the gentiles?

Day Five | Acts 26:24-32

How did Paul handle their questions and objections? How do reason and logic help to support the claims of Christianity? Is following Jesus more about intellectual reasoning or blind faith? Why? Where is God challenging you to be more bold in your declaration of His truth and in your sharing of your faith with others?

Big Picture Questions:

Paul made an intelligent and passionate case for following Jesus. What needs to grow more within you - your knowledge of the faith or your passion to share & live it out?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 13: Acts 27

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Day One | Acts 27:1-12

Who has God placed into your life to encourage and help you? Are you intentional about being a help and encouragement to others? Why do you think the crew of the ship decided to sail on despite the dangers? Describe a time when someone warned you to change course but you ignored their advice. What was the result?

Day Two | Acts 27:13-20

What was the most frightening experience you have had dealing with nature's power? Have you ever had an experience where you felt like all hope was lost? What do you do in a situation like that? Why do you think God allowed this storm to come upon them - was it random, God's judgement, or something else?

Day Three | Acts 27:21-26

What do you find most interesting about what Paul says to the sailors? How is this situation similar to the story of Jonah? How is it different? Can you describe a time when you felt the comfort of God in really difficult circumstances?

Day Four | Acts 27:27-38

Have you gone through a period of time in your life that felt like extended darkness with no sun? What finally brought that experience to an end? How did Paul know that they would all survive? Why did the soldiers and sailors listen to and obey Paul? Why was it important for them to eat something?

Day Five | Acts 27:39-44

How do you see God's hand at work in their ultimate escape from the storm? Has God ever helped you to escape from an impossible situation? Why do you think the centurion wanted to save Paul? Was it out of duty or respect? Why do you think that God allowed all of this to happen to Paul? What could we learn from it?

Big Picture Questions:

Has God allowed you to go through some difficult things that ultimately became an important part of your testimony?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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Week 14: Acts 28

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Day One | Acts 28:1-6

What kind of reception do they receive on the island? Can you describe a time when you were able to help out someone in need? What was your motivation to do it? Why do you think that Paul was unharmed by the snake that bit him? What do you think Paul was thinking when this happened? How would you have responded to that?

Day Two | Acts 28:7-10

Who received the greater blessing out of this visit - the people of Malta or Paul & his shipmates? Do you feel like God's plan has ever taken you to an unexpected place? What impact do you think the miracles and healings had on that community? How might it have impacted the centurion and Paul's other companions?

Day Three | Acts 28:11-16

Why was Paul so encouraged by the Christians who he met along the way and who came from Rome to greet him? Who has God used in your life to encourage you? Who have you tried to bless or encourage? What impact do you think Paul's behavior and character had on his treatment by the Roman authorities?

Day Four | Acts 28:17-22

Why would Paul have reached out to the local Jewish leaders? What was his goal in meeting with them? Why do you think that people called Christianity a sect and spoke against it? Can you describe a time when you proactively sought to avoid a conflict and create reconciliation? What was the result?

Day Five | Acts 28:23-31

What was Paul teaching & proclaiming to the Jewish leaders? How did they respond to Paul? In what way did preaching & teaching in Rome allow the Gospel to go to the ends of the earth? What work is still left to do in proclaiming the Gospel to the ends of the earth? What role can you play in helping to make that happen?

Big Picture Questions:

What stood out to you the most from our entire study of the book of Acts? What is one way that you are thinking or acting differently as a result of these studies?

Prayer: Reflection and Response

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