



The Book of Acts tells the story of “The Continuing Work of Christ.” Following Jesus’s death, resurrection, and ascension, the Father’s plan is continued through the Son as the Spirit empowers his disciples for gospel ministry. From the opening verses of the Book of Acts we are met with certain programmatic themes that are crucial to the entire book. As we set our course today, we discover three of those: *The Certainty of Christ’s Continuing Work*, *The Promise of the Holy Spirit*, and *The Advancement of the Gospel*.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Compare Acts 1:1-3 with Luke 1:1-4. What similarities do you see? Why do you think Matt titled his sermon “The Continuing Work of Christ,” even though Jesus isn’t physically present in most of the book of Acts?
2. In verse 4, Jesus tells the disciples to stay and wait with him. What were the disciples waiting on? How did the baptism from John differ from the baptism Jesus was now talking about in verse 5?
3. Matt asked the following question, “am I aware of my complete dependence on the spirit of God?” Discuss this with your group. What are some ways we can become more dependent on and aware of God’s spirit in our lives?
4. Acts 1:8 serves as a table of contents for the whole book of Acts. How so? (Feel free to scan through the whole book of Acts and trace how the story follows the gospel spreading through Jerusalem, Judea, and the ends of the earth). Also read Isaiah 49:6. How does Acts 1:8 (and the rest of the book) serve as a fulfillment to this verse?
5. Matt’s searching question at the beginning of the message was, “am I experiencing the joy of gospel advancement?” How would you answer this question? What role do you play personally in the continuing work of Christ?

PRAY: Pray that The Trails Church would continue to be a spirit-dependent people. That the Lord would give you joy as you seek to advance the gospel in your context. And that the good news of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus would reach every nation, tribe and tongue.