

The Book of Acts:

*The Birth, Growth, and
Expansion of the Church*

Stonebriar Community Church

Marathon Fellowship

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THE BOOK OF ACTS

*The Birth, Growth, and
Expansion of the Church*

The Book of Acts

- Acts
- Acts of the Apostles
- Acts of the Holy Spirit through the Apostles
- Acts of Jesus through the Apostles in the Power of the Holy Spirit

THE BOOK OF ACTS

*The Birth, Growth, and
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The Church

- Jesus' Prediction of the Church:
 - Matt. 16:18 “I will build My Church”
- Jesus' Revelation of the Church to Paul:
 - Acts 9 The Body of Christ
- Paul's Description of the Church:
 - Eph. 3:2-13 The Mystery

The Significance of Luke/Acts in the New Testament

- 7,947 verses in the NT
- 2,157 verses in Luke/Acts (2 books): 27%
- 2,032 verses in Pauline Epistles (13): 26%
- 1,407 verses in the Johannine writings (5): 18%

Important Introductory Issues of the Book of Acts

- Author (who)
- Date (when)
- Audience (to whom)
- Background (life-situation)
- Purpose (why)
- Theme (what)

The Book of Acts

- **Acts 1:8— “ . . . And you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”**
 - I. The Witness of the Church in Jerusalem (chaps. 1–7)
 - II. The Witness of the Church in Judea & Samaria (chaps. 8–12)
 - III. The Witness of the Church to the Ends of the Earth (chaps. 13–28)

The “Prologue” (Acts 1:1-5)

- *3 Significant Points:*

1. It is a sequel to his former book.
2. Jesus’ life & ministry would be continued through the apostles in the power of the Holy Spirit.
3. The ministries of the apostles & the future disciples would be empowered by the Holy Spirit in witness of Christ.

The “Kingdom of God”

- 2 Phases/Aspects of God’s Kingdom:

1. God’s Eternal Kingdom (Dan. 4:3, 34; Ps. 103:19).
2. Christ’s Messianic, Earthly Kingdom—Davidic Kingdom (2 Sam. 7:12; Matt. 3:2; 4:17)