

A Bible Study on the Book of Acts

- Living Unafraid in a Frightening World -

Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 am (starting in September)

Starting in September, you are invited to study how the early followers of Jesus lived in a way that showed their trust that Jesus was Lord. This series is called "Living Unafraid in a Frightening World." The story of Acts begins this way: The disciples are with the risen Lord. He is teaching them about the kingdom of God, and they ask, "Is this the time you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" It sounds like a question about time, like "Is it time to stop for lunch?" "Is it time to retire?" But this question is more than asking what time it is. They asked this question because they see that life is not as it should be. These disciples followed Jesus. They listened to his teachings. They watched his encounters with the forgotten and overlooked. They know that he sees life differently than others do. What they are asking is "Is now the time to make things right?" The question is honest, and it is true, and it grows not from curiosity; it grows from worry, I think. It seems to me that many are worried these days. There's more than a little to cause us anxiety.

John Hilley will lead us through many of the stories in The Book of Acts, examining messages from the life of the early church in light of issues people face today. Join us Tuesday mornings from 9:30 am - 10:30 am for a session that combines a brief presentation and overview, bible study and discussion and prayer during which we ask the questions "Where is God in the text?" and seek to draw connections to where we see God in our lives. Why the Book of Acts? Acts proclaims Jesus is alive now, so we can live, even in this world, as a people who are living unafraid in a frightening world.

September 12	Acts 1:6-11	You Shall Be My Witnesses
September 19	Acts: 7 (selected)	Carry This Story With You
September 26	Acts 2:1-13	Who Needs to Be There?
October 3	Acts 6:1-7	Now Hiring
October 10	Acts 9:1-19	Being Converted to Christ Every Day
October 17	Acts 9:36-43	We All Need Dorcas in Our Lives
October 24	Acts 10 (selected)	The Last Person I Thought I Would Need
October 31	Acts 15	When God Shows Up At Your Meeting
November 7	Acts 20:7-12	A Lesson From Eutychus
November 14	Acts 15: 36-41	Barnabas: Son of Encouragement
November 21	Acts 26:12-18	Have I told You This Story Before?
November 28	Acts 28:23-30	It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This?

Main Resource for the class: Bible

Supplemental Resource: Acts Commentary, Paul Walaskay

In this book, Paul Walaskay discusses Luke's description of the early church, its leadership, and its struggles as a people of God amid competing religious claims. He helps the reader understand Luke and his contemporaries and examines the first-century church's situation in light of today's issues. <http://www.thethoughtfulchristian.com/Products/0664252613/acts.aspx>. Books in the Westminster Bible Companion series assist laity in their study of the Bible as a guide to Christian faith and practice.