



**Class 2 ~ Acts, Part 2
8.28.19**

Homework for week 8.28 – 9.3

Videos we watched in class:

The Holy Spirit <https://thebibleproject.com/videos/holy-spirit/>

Acts Chapters 8-12 <https://thebibleproject.com/videos/acts-ch-8-12/>

Acts Chapters 13-20 <https://thebibleproject.com/videos/acts-ch-13-20/>

Acts Chapters 21-28 <https://thebibleproject.com/videos/acts-ch-21-28/>

Homework:

Everyday: First, pray that the Lord will reveal Himself through your reading and will impress His words upon your heart giving you clarity and transformation through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Day 1: The Holy Spirit - Read the following Got Questions? Article
<https://www.gotquestions.org/outpouring-of-the-Holy-Spirit.html>

When and how do we receive the Holy Spirit?

Read the following verses to learn about this important part of the Trinity:

- 1 Corinthians 12:13
- Romans 8:9
- Ephesians 1:13-14

In Acts 8-12 - each time someone receives (or acts in) the Holy Spirit - it is quite an experience! You can really tell the Holy Spirit is at work! What happens in the following verses?

- 8:6, 14-17

- 8:29, 39

- 9:17-19, 31

- 10:19

- 10:44-46

- 11:12

- 11:24, 28

What does this mean about the power of the Holy Spirit? How can you tell someone has the Holy Spirit? Can people tell it is present in you? What has it been doing in your life lately?

Day 2: Read Acts 8-12 - How does my work matter?

Document the way the author Luke points out the vocation of key figures.

Simon (8:18-19) is a _____

Saul (9:1-2) is a _____

Herod (12:1-3) is a _____

How do these people use their earthly work and authority? For good or for evil. Note what happens to each of them.

In contrast, note the following people and how they use their work.

Tabitha (9:39)

Simon (10:5)

Cornelius (10:4, 24)

Now read Acts 11:27-30 for an example of how a community can use their work for the benefit of others in need. Was the spirit at work again? Watch for the Spirit in all of your readings this week!

Do you think the career matters to Christ? Or what you do with it?

Those headed into the kingdom use the fruits of their labor to serve others as witnesses of God's kingdom. Those headed away use the fruits of their labor solely for personal gain. How can you use the fruits of your labor to serve others as a witness for Christ?

Day 3: Read Acts 13-20

The Holy Spirit is at work again - sending Paul and Barnabus off onto Paul's first missionary journey.

Read Paul's sermon and OT recap Acts 13:16 and watch the footnotes. Paul quotes:

Psalm 2 (in Acts 13: 33)

Psalm 16 (13:35, 41)

Isaiah 29:14

Considering scripture in light of scripture - why would Paul quote Psalms and Isaiah in this sermon? What can we learn from his method of sharing the gospel?

After reading Acts 13: 48-52, give a quick summary of Paul's first missionary trip. Huge success? Dismal failure? Little of both?

Acts 13:51 points to Matthew 10:14 - read these verses and write what you learn.

Even though Paul and Barnabas shook off the dust and left - they were still filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit, and Paul kept going.

Is there someone you need to shake off? And how can you use this as inspiration to keep sharing God's word with nonbelievers?

Day 4: Read Acts 21-28

Paul has followed the Great Commission - spreading the gospel in Jerusalem, Samaria, and now the ends of the earth. In this last section, travels to Rome, the center of the known world.

Paul's life greatly echoes the life of Jesus in Chapters 20 & 21.

See if you can find the similarities: circle the correct answer.

- Jesus and Paul both travelled alone / with a group of disciples
- Jesus and Paul both faced opposition from hostile Jews/ were welcomed into every Jewish province
- Jesus and Paul both made three/ zero predictions regarding the coming sufferings
- Jesus and Paul both had companions who tried to dissuade them from going to Jerusalem/ Egypt
- Jesus and Paul both declared a willingness/ reluctance to lay down their life to serve others
- Jesus and Paul both were arrested based on false accusations/ true crimes
- Jesus and Paul both faced a Roman officer who did not know his true identity/ shoe size

There are more similarities to find - see if you can!

Romans 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Paul was conformed to the image of Christ, and his life was strikingly similar. What are the KEY differences between Paul and Jesus?

We will be called to conform to the image of Christ too. There may be times when we are in the wilderness, when people need help that only we can give, when the storm is raging, when we are afraid of what's coming, but willing to do it anyway, when we must trust God's sovereign plan over our own will. Let us not be surprised at these similarities to the life of Christ but be thankful for the chance to honor and trust Him when it happens.

Day 5: Paul's closing statement

Please reread Acts 28:25-28.

The Holy Spirit (again!) had told their forefathers that they would not see nor hear who Jesus really is. (Isaiah 6:9,10) Paul quoted Isaiah in his final defense at Rome.

Let us rephrase this passage into a prayer for ourselves:

Lord, help me be someone who hears and understands, who sees and perceives.

Keep my heart sharp and zealous for you, with ears open to hear your instruction, and eyes open to see you at work.

If I encounter someone who resists you - may my life be a witness of your love, that they may see, hear and understand you with their heart, and turn and be healed by you.

Extra Credit:

Paul: A man of Grace and Grit, by Charles R. Swindoll

<https://www.amazon.com/Paul-Grace-Grit-Great-Lives/dp/1400202590>

Rent and Watch *Paul, Apostle of Christ* (2018)

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7388562/>