

WHERE THE ACTION IS: Acts of the Apostles

Winter Session, January 4 – March 28, 2016

Mondays 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Reader’s Guide: The date, theme and scripture references for each session are provided to encourage you to do a careful pre-reading of the text before the class presentation. The New Testament historical narrative of **Acts** sets the context for many of the NT letters. We will punctuate the narrative with the three earliest letters: **Galatians; 1&2 Thessalonians.**

January 4 THEME: “BIRTH OF THE CHURCH” (Acts 1:1-2:47)

- Ascension Acts 1:1-11 (Luke 24:36-53)
- “The Twelve” (12) Acts 1:12-26
- Pentecost Acts 2:1-47

January 11 THEME: “CHURCH GROWTH” (Acts 3:1-5:42)

- Miracles & Messages Acts 3:1-4:12
- Civil Disobedience Acts 4:13-31
- Discipline & Opposition Acts 4:32-5:42

January 18 HOLIDAY: MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. (No Class)

January 25 THEME: “PERSECUTED CHURCH” (Acts 6:1-9:42)

- Growing Pains Acts 6:1-7
- Martyr & Witnesses Acts 6:8-8:40
- Blinded by “The Light” Acts 9:1-42

February 1 THEME: “MULTIPLYING CHURCH” (Acts 10:1-14:28)

- Gentiles Accepted Too Acts 10:1-11:18
- 1st “Christians” Acts 11:19-12:25
- 1st Missionary Church Acts 13:1-14:28

February 8 THEME: “GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD” (Galatians 1:1-3:25)

- “Good News” Revealed by Jesus Galatians 1:1-2:10
- Justified by Faith Not Works Galatians 2:11-21
- Receiving God’s Promise Galatians 3:1-25

February 15 HOLIDAY PRESIDENT’S DAY (No Class)

February 22	THEME: "SET FREE FOR FREEDOM"	(Galatians 3:26-6:18)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children of God & Heirs • Freedom to Live in the Spirit • New Creation 	<p>Galatians 3:26-4:31</p> <p>Galatians 5:1-5:26</p> <p>Galatians 6:1-18</p>
February 29	THEME: "GOSPEL FOR THE WORLD"	(Acts 15:1-18:22)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council in Jerusalem • Agree to Disagree • "Good News" Goes to Europe 	<p>Acts 15:1-35</p> <p>Acts 15:36-16:5</p> <p>Acts 16:6-18:22</p>
March 7	THEME: "INTERNATIONAL CHURCH"	(Acts 18:23-21:26)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Asia Hears "Good News" • A Tour of Tears • Circling Back to Jerusalem 	<p>Acts 18:23-20:1</p> <p>Acts 20:2-38</p> <p>Acts 21:1-26</p>
March 14	THEME: "JERUSALEM'S RESISTANCE"	(Acts 21:27-26:32)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul's Final Appeal in Jerusalem • Protective Custody • Witness to Governors & Kings 	<p>Acts 21:27-23:11</p> <p>Acts 23:12-35</p> <p>Acts 24:1-26:32</p>
March 21	THEME: "POSITIVE CHURCH MODEL"	(1&2 Thessalonians)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authentic Faith • Parental Analogies • Responsible Living • 2nd Coming of Our Lord 	<p>1Thess. 1:1-10; 2Thess. 1:1-12</p> <p>1Thess. 2:1-3:13</p> <p>1Thess. 4:1-12; 5:12-28; 2Thess. 2:13-3:18</p> <p>1Thess. 4:13-5:11; 2Thess. 2:1-12</p>
March 28	THEME: "VOYAGE TO ROME"	(Acts 27 & 28)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Seas Adventure • "And So, We Came to Rome" 	<p>Acts 27:1-28:13</p> <p>Acts 28:14-31</p>

***"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common.⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."* Acts 2:42-47**