FIVE-DAY THEOLOGY COURSE

# ACTS

## The Spirit of God in Mission

TAUGHT BY

**Lec SK. KIERU**

## Exam revision pack

Key terms, verses, people, places, events, Acts 1:8, and the seven outpourings. This pack does not contain the final examination questions.

Day 1: Understanding Acts and Preparing for Pentecost · Day 2: The Spirit-Empowered Church in Jerusalem and Beyond · Day 3: The Gentile Mission and Paul's Missionary Expansion · Day 4: Paul's Missionary Journeys, Jerusalem and Rome

Day 5: Final examination (2026-10-09)

*Based on Acts: The Spirit of God in Mission by Denzil R. Miller. Africa's Hope, 2017.*

# Acts 1:8

Power, then witness, then Jerusalem, then Judea, then Samaria, then the ends of the earth.

## The seven key outpourings

- 1. Pentecost, the first Jerusalem outpouring (Acts 2:1-4)
- 2. The second Jerusalem outpouring (Acts 4:31)
- 3. The Samaritan outpouring (Acts 8:14-17)
- 4. The Damascene outpouring (Acts 9:15-18)
- 5. The Caesarean outpouring (Acts 10:44-48)
- 6. The Antiochian "outpouring" (Acts 13:1-3)
- 7. The Ephesian outpouring (Acts 19:1-7)

## Five units

- Unit 1: Introduction
- Unit 2: The Jewish Mission
- Unit 3: The Transitional Period
- Unit 4: The Gentile Mission
- Unit 5: Jerusalem and Rome

CHAPTER 1

# Introduction to Acts

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

The Holy Spirit is the central character of Acts, and Acts is the story of His work in the mission of God.

## Key verse

Acts 1:8

## Key terms

mission, missions, missio Dei, interpretative key, empowerment-witness motif

## Key people

Luke, Theophilus, The Holy Spirit

## Key places

Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, The ends of the earth, Rome

## Key event

Luke writes Acts, around A.D. 65, to call the church back to its pentecostal and missionary roots.

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**Acts is the Spirit-inspired story of the Spirit-empowered mission of the church, and Acts 1:8 is the key that unlocks it.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. Why would "The Acts of the Holy Spirit" be a more appropriate title for the book of Acts than "The Acts of the Apostles"?

• 2. Give three reasons why it is important to study and teach the book of Acts.

• 3. How can the book of Acts serve as a book of missionary strategy for the

church today?

• 4. How does Acts 1:8 serve as the interpretative key to the book of Acts? How can you use this concept in your study of the book of Acts?

CHAPTER 2

# Preparation for Pentecost

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

Before the church could go, it had to wait. Spirit empowering is the necessary preparation for mission.

## Key verse

Acts 1:4

## Key terms

baptized in the Holy Spirit, the promise of the Father, inclusio, episode, seven key outpourings

## Key people

Jesus, The eleven apostles, Mary the mother of Jesus, Peter, Matthias, Joseph called Barsabbas

## Key places

Jerusalem, The Upper Room, The temple courts, Mount of Olives

## Key event

Jesus commands the disciples to stay in Jerusalem and wait for the gift the Father promised, then ascends into heaven.

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**Acts 1 gives the programme for the whole book: wait for the Spirit, receive power, and be witnesses from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. To whom is the book of Acts addressed? Was it meant only for him? How

might it be relevant to you?

• 2. What was Jesus' final command to His church before returning to heaven? How can this command be reconciled with His repeated command to "go"? How does this command apply to the church today?

• 3. Describe the meaning of "baptized" in the Holy Spirit.

• 4. Cite several texts in Luke-Acts that associate prayer with receiving the Holy Spirit. How do these texts apply to the church today?

CHAPTER 3

# The Day of Pentecost

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

The outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost is the defining event in the book of Acts, and its purpose is empowerment for missional witness.

## Key verse

Acts 2:4

## Key terms

Pentecost, theophany, empowerment-witness motif, apostolic kerygma, kerygmatic, the gift of the Holy Spirit, times of refreshing

## Key people

The Holy Spirit, The 120 disciples, Peter, John, Joel, The crippled beggar at the Beautiful Gate

## Key places

Jerusalem, The temple mount, The Court of the Gentiles, The Beautiful Gate, Solomon's temple courts

## Key event

On the Day of Pentecost all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues.

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**At Pentecost the Spirit was poured out, the disciples were all filled and spoke in other tongues, and the result was bold prophetic witness that added about three thousand people to the church.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. Did the 120 speak in tongues before or after they were filled with the Spirit? What is the significance of this fact?

• 2. For what purpose was the Spirit given at Pentecost? (Acts 1:8)

• 3. Which prophet did Peter quote at Pentecost? According to this prophecy, what would be the result of the Spirit being poured out on people?

• 4. How does the context of Acts 2:38-39 indicate that Peter is talking about empowerment rather than conversion?

• 5. What does Peter's refilling with the Spirit in 4:8 indicate about the Spirit-filled walk?

CHAPTER 4

# Ministry in Jerusalem

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

Being filled with the Spirit is not a one-time-only experience; the second Jerusalem outpouring resulted in ongoing Spirit-empowered witness in the city.

## Key verse

Acts 4:31

## Key terms

second Jerusalem outpouring, empowerment-witness motif, theophany, proclamation and demonstration, filled with the Holy Spirit, Hellenistic Jews

## Key people

Peter and John, Barnabas (Joseph), Ananias and Sapphira, Gamaliel, Stephen, Saul of Tarsus

## Key places

Jerusalem, The temple courts, Solomon's Colonnade, The towns around Jerusalem

## Key event

The second Jerusalem outpouring: after they prayed, the place was shaken, they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God boldly (Acts 4:31).

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**A second outpouring of the Spirit in Jerusalem filled the church again, produced bold witness and signs, and prepared the believers to face rising persecution, including Stephen's death.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. Why did Luke include a second outpouring of the Spirit in Jerusalem in his narrative? What personal and ministry lessons can we learn from this outpouring?

• 2. How are signs and wonders related to the Holy Spirit? How are they related to the evangelistic success of the church?

• 3. Why was it important that seven men be chosen to take care of the feeding of the widows in Acts 6? What kind of men were chosen? What was the result of this Spirit-guided action?

• 4. Who was there to observe Stephen's martyrdom? How did Stephen's dying impact this person's life?

• 5. How can a person prepare to finish his or her life full of the Spirit?

CHAPTER 5

# Persecution and Witness

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

The church transitioned from a Jewish sect to an international missionary force.

## Key verse

Acts 8:4

## Key terms

transitional period, Samaritan outpouring, empowerment-witness motif, missional witness, divine appointment, reciprocal blessing

## Key people

Saul of Tarsus, Philip, Peter and John, Simon the Sorcerer, The Ethiopian eunuch

## Key places

Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, Gaza, Azotus, Caesarea

## Key event

The Samaritan outpouring: Peter and John place their hands on the Samaritan believers and they receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:14-17).

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**Persecution scattered the church, but the scattered believers preached the word wherever they went, and in Samaria the Spirit was poured out so the new church could carry the gospel on.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. Why would Luke include the story of the persecution and scattering of the Jerusalem church in his narrative?

• 2. How does the church's scattering into Judea and Samaria relate to Jesus'

statement in Acts 1:8?

• 3. What indications are there in the text that the Samaritans were truly saved as a result of Philip's ministry?

• 4. How is the story of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch an example of a "divine appointment"?

• 5. What cross-cultural "divine appointments" have you had in your life?

CHAPTER 6

# Continued Expansion of the Church

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

The conversion and empowering of Saul of Tarsus prepared the way for him to become God's instrument in opening wide the door to Gentile inclusion in the family and mission of God.

## Key verse

Acts 9:17

## Key terms

Damascene outpouring, empowerment-witness motif, transitional period, chosen instrument, command of faith

## Key people

Saul of Tarsus, Ananias, Barnabas, Peter, Aeneas, Tabitha (Dorcas)

## Key places

Damascus, Straight Street, Jerusalem, Tarsus, Lydda, Joppa

## Key event

The Damascene outpouring: Ananias places his hands on Saul, who is immediately healed and filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 9:17-18).

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**Jesus met Saul on the Damascus road, a Spirit-filled layman prayed for him to be healed and filled, and at once he began to preach.**

## Textbook Review and Application

- 1. Why did Saul of Tarsus go to Damascus?
- 2. Jesus asked Saul, "Why do you persecute me?" How was Saul persecuting

Jesus?

• 3. Why do you think Luke includes the story of Saul's Spirit baptism in his narrative?

• 4. Describe Peter's charismatic ministry in northwestern Judea. What were the results of the miracles he performed at this time?

CHAPTER 7

# The Inclusion of the Gentiles

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

The Caesarean outpouring opened the door wide to Gentile inclusion into the body of Christ.

## Key verse

Acts 10:47

## Key terms

divine appointment, God-fearer, proselytes, Caesarean outpouring, transitional period, empowerment-witness motif, Superintendent of the Harvest

## Key people

Cornelius, Peter, Simon the tanner, Barnabas, Saul, Agabus, Herod

## Key places

Caesarea, Joppa, Jerusalem, Antioch, Tarsus

## Key event

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message in the house of Cornelius, and they spoke in tongues and magnified God.

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**God arranged an appointment between a Gentile soldier and a Jewish apostle, poured out His Spirit on the Gentiles in Caesarea, and so opened the door to full Gentile participation in the mission of God.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. What was the meaning of the vision that the Spirit gave to Peter on the rooftop?

• 2. Why is it important to understand that Jesus ministered in the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit? (Acts 10:38). What are the implications for our ministries today?

• 3. How did the Jewish brothers who accompanied Peter to Caesarea know that the Gentiles had received the Holy Spirit?

• 4. According to Acts 1:8 and 11:15-17, how do we know that the Gentiles in Caesarea were given the Holy Spirit to empower them as witnesses?

• 5. How can your church become a missional church?

CHAPTER 8

# Paul's First Missionary Journey

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

The Gentile mission was launched by a powerful move of the Spirit in the church in Antioch, the Antiochian "outpouring."

## Key verse

Acts 13:4

## Key terms

Antiochian "outpouring", pneuma event, empowerment-witness motif, power encounter, indigenous churches, Superintendent of the Harvest

## Key people

Barnabas, Saul (Paul), John Mark, Sergius Paulus, Elymas (Bar-Jesus)

## Key places

Antioch of Syria, Cyprus, Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe

## Key event

The Antiochian "outpouring": while the church was worshiping and fasting, the Holy Spirit set apart Barnabas and Saul, and the church and the Spirit sent them on their way (Acts 13:1-4).

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**A powerful move of the Spirit in Antioch launched the Gentile mission; Barnabas and Saul preached on Cyprus and in Asia Minor, planted indigenous churches, and reported back to the sending church.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. What was the result of the powerful move of the Spirit in the church in

Antioch? How does this "outpouring" of the Spirit help to confirm Luke's empowerment-witness motif?

• 2. According to Acts 13:1-4, who cooperated in sending the missionaries to the field?

• 3. What part did the demonstration of spiritual gifts play in the conversion of Sergius Paulus to Christ?

• 4. Discuss the role of spiritual gifts in missionary work in the contemporary world. Are they primary or secondary in demonstrating the superiority of the gospel?

• 5. What three important indigenous church-planting principles can we learn from Paul's first missionary journey?

• 6. What does it mean that "the gospel ministry is more than just talking?"

• 7. Has your church held any missions services or conventions? Discuss this question.

CHAPTER 9

# Missionary Council in Jerusalem

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

The Jerusalem council decides that Gentiles need not become Jewish proselytes to be saved. Salvation for both Jews and Gentiles is by faith in Christ alone.

## Key verse

Acts 15:11

## Key terms

Gentile Question, Judaizers, missionary council in Jerusalem, gospel of grace, Jewish proselyte, God-fearer, yoke, Superintendent of the Harvest

## Key people

Paul and Barnabas, Peter, James, The party of the Pharisees, Judas (Barsabbas) and Silas

## Key places

Antioch, Jerusalem, Phoenicia and Samaria, Syria and Cilicia

## Key event

The missionary council in Jerusalem decides that Gentiles do not have to be circumcised or keep the Law of Moses to be saved.

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**The Spirit-guided council in Jerusalem settled the Gentile Question: people are saved by faith in Christ alone, so Gentiles need not first become Jewish proselytes.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. What was the nature of the dispute that arose in the church in Antioch (Acts

15:1-5)?

• 2. What evidences do Peter, Paul, and Barnabas give that God had accepted the Gentiles without their first becoming Jewish proselytes?

• 3. Based on the evidence in this chapter, is it fair to say that certain Jewish believers were mistaking Jewish cultural requirements for gospel requirements? Can you think of circumstances in history and your own experience when church leaders and/or Christians made the same mistakes?

• 4. What was the result of the Spirit-guided decision of the church in Antioch?

• 5. How important is it to God that His children preserve the bonds of peace and unity among culturally diverse groups of believers? How can a leader help to keep this kind of unity between the churches?

CHAPTER 10

# Paul's Second Missionary Journey (Part 1)

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

Like his first missionary journey, Paul's second journey began with a move of the Holy Spirit.

## Key verse

Acts 16:9

## Key terms

Spirit-empowered missional church, Superintendent of the Harvest, Spirit of Jesus, incarnational missionary ministry, indigenous church

## Key people

Paul, Barnabas, John Mark, Silas, Timothy, Luke, Lydia, The Philippian jailer

## Key places

Antioch, Derbe and Lystra, Troas, Macedonia, Philippi

## Key event

In Troas Paul sees a vision of a man of Macedonia saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us," and the missionaries at once prepare to leave for Europe.

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**The Holy Spirit kept Paul's team out of Asia and Bithynia so He could send them to Macedonia, and the gospel entered Europe at Philippi.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. How did the Holy Spirit again work as the Superintendent of the Harvest in guiding Paul's missionary band to Macedonia and then into Europe? How might this apply to ministry today?

• 2. Who was the first Christian convert in Europe? Is it significant that she was a woman?

• 3. How did Paul and Silas' singing in the prison at night serve as a witness to the other prisoners? What other kinds of witness are present in this story? What was the result?

• 4. What instructions did Paul give to the Philippian jailer on how to be saved? What indication do we have of the Spirit's working in the jailer's heart?

• 5. What is the significance of Paul's comments to the officials of Philippi regarding their treatment of Barnabas and Paul? What purpose was served by Paul's statement that he and Barnabas were Roman citizens? See Acts 22:24-26 also for more information on this issue.

CHAPTER 11

# Paul's Second Missionary Journey (Part 2)

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

Paul planted Spirit-empowered missional churches in Macedonia and Achaia by preaching Christ crucified and risen with a demonstration of the Spirit's power.

## Key verse

Acts 17:3

## Key terms

Spirit-empowered missional church, God-fearer, cross-cultural adaptation, Areopagus (Mars Hill), word of God

## Key people

Paul, Silas, Timothy, Jason, Dionysius and Damaris, Aquila and Priscilla, Crispus, Gallio

## Key places

Thessalonica, Berea, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus

## Key event

The Lord comes to Paul in a vision at Corinth and tells him to keep on speaking, and Paul remains there a year and a half teaching the word of God.

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**From Thessalonica to Ephesus, Paul kept preaching Christ and him crucified, adapting to each culture without compromising the gospel, and the Lord encouraged him with a vision when the work was hard.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. Describe Paul and Silas' reception in the city of Thessalonica. What was the

result of their work there?

• 2. How did Paul support himself when he first arrived in Corinth? With whom did he work? What changed when Silas and Timothy arrived?

• 3. How did the Holy Spirit encourage Paul in Corinth (18:9-10)?

• 4. Was Paul's goal of giving full time in ministry realistic in his pioneering efforts? Are gospel ministers ever justified in working full time while they pastor a church? Justify your answer.

CHAPTER 12

# Paul's Third Missionary Journey

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

The Ephesian outpouring is the seventh and last key outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts. In the Ephesian campaign, Luke sums up Paul's missionary strategy in three pillars: empowering, proclamation of the gospel with signs following, and mobilization.

## Key verse

Acts 19:6

## Key terms

Ephesian outpouring, empowering, proclamation of the gospel with signs following, mobilization, initial physical evidence, empowerment-witness motif, lecture hall of Tyrannus, Spirit-empowered missional church

## Key people

Paul, Apollos, Priscilla and Aquila, The twelve disciples, The seven sons of Sceva, Demetrius, Eutychus, The Ephesian elders

## Key places

Antioch, Phrygia and Galatia, Ephesus, The province of Asia, Macedonia and Greece, Troas, Miletus

## Key event

The Ephesian outpouring: Paul lays his hands on the twelve disciples, the Holy Spirit comes on them, and they speak in tongues and prophesy (Acts 19:6).

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**Paul begins the third journey from Antioch, the Spirit is poured out on the twelve in Ephesus, and a two-year campaign using three strategy**

**pillars reaches all of Asia.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. From where did Paul begin his third missionary journey? Who went with him? Did this affect his outlook or ministerial effectiveness?

• 2. Luke's terminology in verse 6, "the Holy Spirit came on them," reminds us of what promise in Acts 1:8?

• 3. What was Paul's first question to these men when he arrived in Ephesus? What was his purpose in asking the question?

• 4. List and describe the three pillars of Paul's missionary strategy.

• 5. What type of cross-cultural challenges might face international missionary teams today? Why is it so important to meet these challenges successfully?

CHAPTER 13

# Jerusalem and Trials

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

The Spirit was leading Paul to Jerusalem. What mattered was that he obeyed the voice of the Spirit and completed the ministry Christ had given him.

## Key verse

Acts 23:11

## Key terms

ethn , the Way, missio Dei, Superintendent of the Harvest, fivefold commission

## Key people

Paul, James and the elders, Philip, Agabus, Claudius Lysias, Felix, Festus, King Agrippa

## Key places

Tyre, Caesarea, Jerusalem, the temple, Herod's palace

## Key event

The Lord appears to Paul in a night vision and tells him, "Take courage! As you have testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome."

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**Paul went to Jerusalem in the will of the Lord, testified there through arrest and five trials, and was told he must also testify in Rome.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. How did the elders in Jerusalem receive Paul's report concerning his missionary ministry among the Gentiles? Were they justified in their concern for Paul to correct the Jewish perception regarding his ministry and methods?

• 2. List and describe three ways that the Holy Spirit enables the church to fulfill its mission to preach the gospel to all nations.

• 3. According to Paul's testimony before King Agrippa, what five-fold commission had Christ given him? How might this commission apply to the church today?

• 4. Does God ever require His servants today to stand in witness before kings or rulers? Why is it important to be respectful and yet to present the gospel clearly to such leaders?

CHAPTER 14

# Journey to Rome

Taught by Lec SK. KIERU

On the journey to Rome, God directed Paul both by the Holy Spirit and by His controlling hand over nature.

## Key verse

Acts 28:31

## Key terms

word of knowledge, providence, worldview, confirmatory miracles, kingdom of God

## Key people

Paul, Luke, Aristarchus, Publius, the Jewish leaders in Rome

## Key places

Caesarea, Fair Havens, Malta, Puteoli, Rome

## Key event

Paul arrives in Rome as a prisoner and, for two years, boldly preaches the kingdom of God and teaches about the Lord Jesus Christ.

ONE-SENTENCE MEMORY

**God brought Paul through storm and shipwreck to Malta and then to Rome, where the prisoner preached the kingdom of God without opposition.**

## Textbook Review and Application

• 1. What warning from the Spirit did Paul receive? Rather than follow the voice of the Spirit, what did the sailors do?

• 2. What remarkable obstacles did Paul overcome on his voyage to Rome? What does the story of Paul's actions on Malta have to teach us about the value of small communities and the people who live in remote places?

• 3. Even though Paul was a prisoner, what did he do when he first arrived in Rome? What was his central message? (Acts 28:23, 31).

• 4. What is the message of the book of Acts for the church today?

• 5. How can you apply the message of the book of Acts to your ministry? List at least five specific applications or actions you can take to respond to God's Word in the book of Acts.

• 6. Let those in the class share their responses together and then pray over them. When we seek to apply God's Word, we can ask God to clothe us with pentecostal power for witness.