



The
ACTS

OF THE APOSTLES



Today's Scripture Reading

Acts 3:1-16



3 Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ² And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. ³ Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. ⁴ And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, “Look at us.” ⁵ And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them.



⁶ But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!” ⁷ And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸ And leaping up he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹ And all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.



¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. ¹² And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: “Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him.



¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.



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ACTS of the APOSTLES | RECAP!



- Luke and Acts started as **one book** encouraging Theophilus on the Life and works of Jesus.
- Jesus **ris**es from the dead and reveals himself.
- Jesus **reveals his mission** and provides the power to accomplish it.
- His believers are **filled with the Holy Spirit**
- The life of Jesus and the fulfillment of the OT **validates that God made Jesus Lord.**



- The Jews face their reality of **being enemies of God** without Christ and ask what must they do.
- Peter tells them to **“Repent!”** and trust Jesus.
- God gives grace to **many who become Christians**
- The early church **begins to form Christian Community**



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Fulfills the Prophecy of **ISAIAH 35:6**

*“then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert”*



“Why do people get **SICK?**”

1. The Fall/Sin

ROMANS 5:12

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned



“Why do people get **SICK?**”

2. Our Personal Sin

2 SAMUEL 12:13-15

David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” And Nathan said to David, “The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die. Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the Lord, the child who is born to you shall die.” Then Nathan went to his house.



“Why do people get **SICK?**”

3. Demonic Forces

MATTHEW 8:16

That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick.



“Why does God HEAL?”



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TO BRING GLORY TO GOD



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TO BRING GLORY TO GOD

1. It reveals God's love and mercy (v.6-7)
2. It confirms Jesus as God's servant (v.13-14)
3. It reveals the kingdom of God (v.16)
4. It preaches the gospel to non-Christians (v.10)
5. It motivates worship to God (v.8, 10)



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*To this we are witnesses. 16 And his **name**—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.*

What does “**NAME**” mean?



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What does “**NAME**” mean?

It stands for the **reality of Jesus**



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CONCLUSION:

Miracles are **evidence** that **Christ** is on the **throne** and still **working** for the **Glory** of the **Father**.



42 And they *devoted* themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

[**de·vo·ted**]

1. Continued, steadfast
2. Firmly fixed in place
3. Having a strong love



42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

JOHN 8:29-31

29 And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him.” 30 As he was saying these things, many believed in him. 31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples.



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A community desiring health must distinguish

family intimacy

from

intimate ministry



I. Devoted themselves to the **Apostle's Teaching**

43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.



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II. Devoted themselves to **Fellowship**

*44 And all who believed **were together** and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.*



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Key Indicator:

Sacrificial Care

The Danger of Materialism

- Luke 10:30–37 The Good Samaritan
- Luke 12:16–21 The Rich Young Ruler
- Luke 16:19–31 Rich Man and Lazarus

The Point:

We are family!



Why is discontentment such a **dangerous sin**?

1. Dilutes the worth of Jesus
2. Takes your eyes off Jesus
3. Puts focus on the Question
4. Breeds Selfishness
5. Erects Idols



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The antidote to discontentment is **GRATEFULNESS**



Discontent



GRATEFULNESS



Discontent



*Environments
of Gratefulness*

*Practices of
Giving*



CONTENTMENT



III. Devoted themselves to **Breaking Bread**

46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts



III. Devoted themselves to Prayer and Ministry

46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.



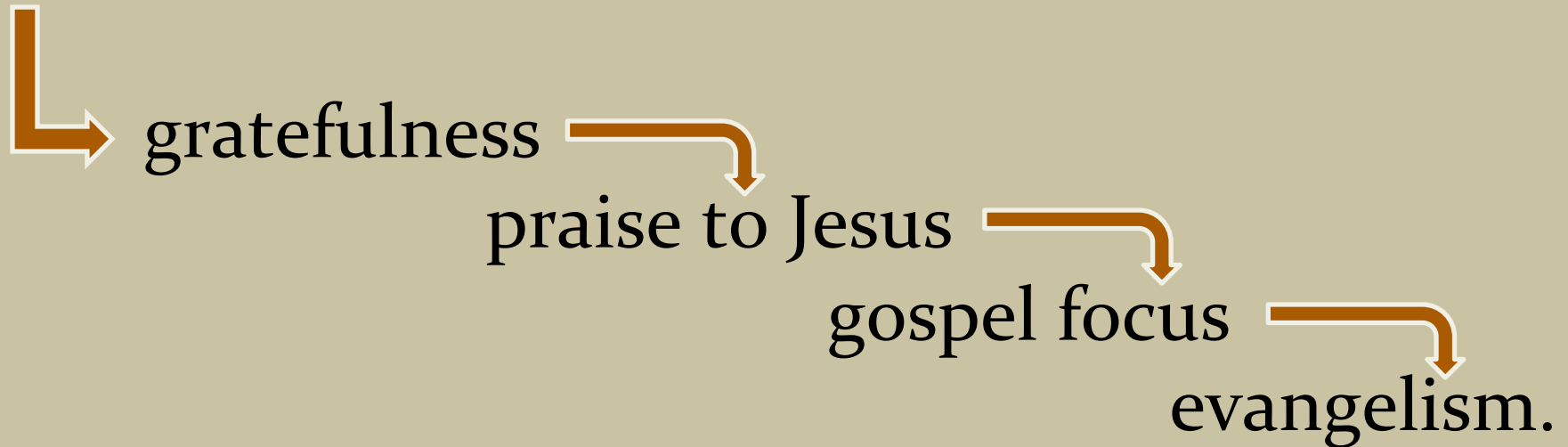
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III. Devoted themselves to Prayer and Ministry

Internal *health* and *joy* ...

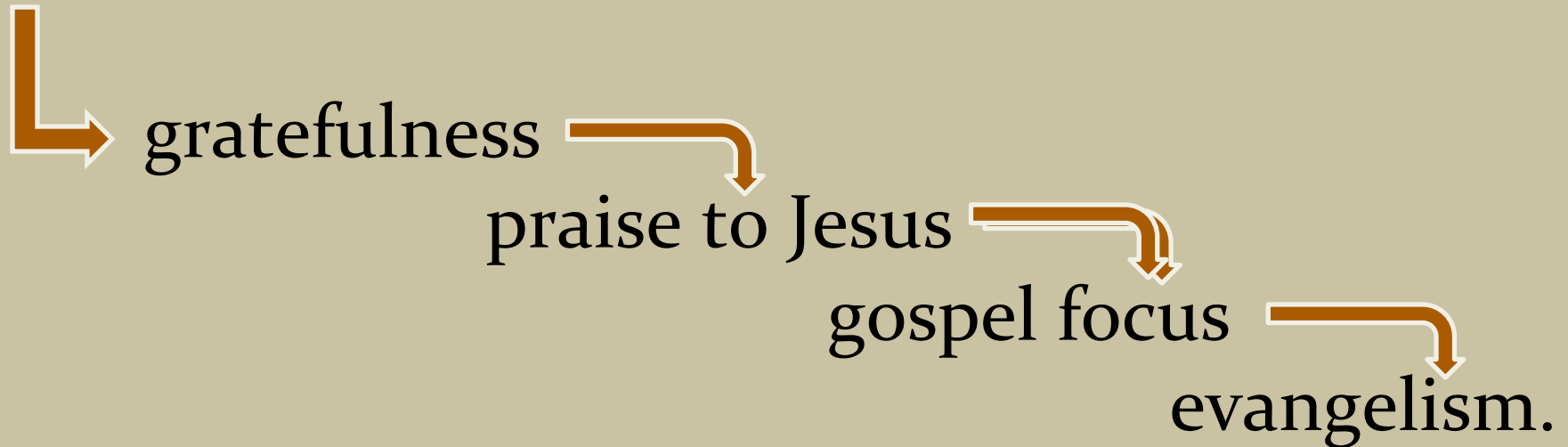


But how does all this happen?



III. Devoted themselves to Prayer and Ministry

Internal *health* and *joy* ...



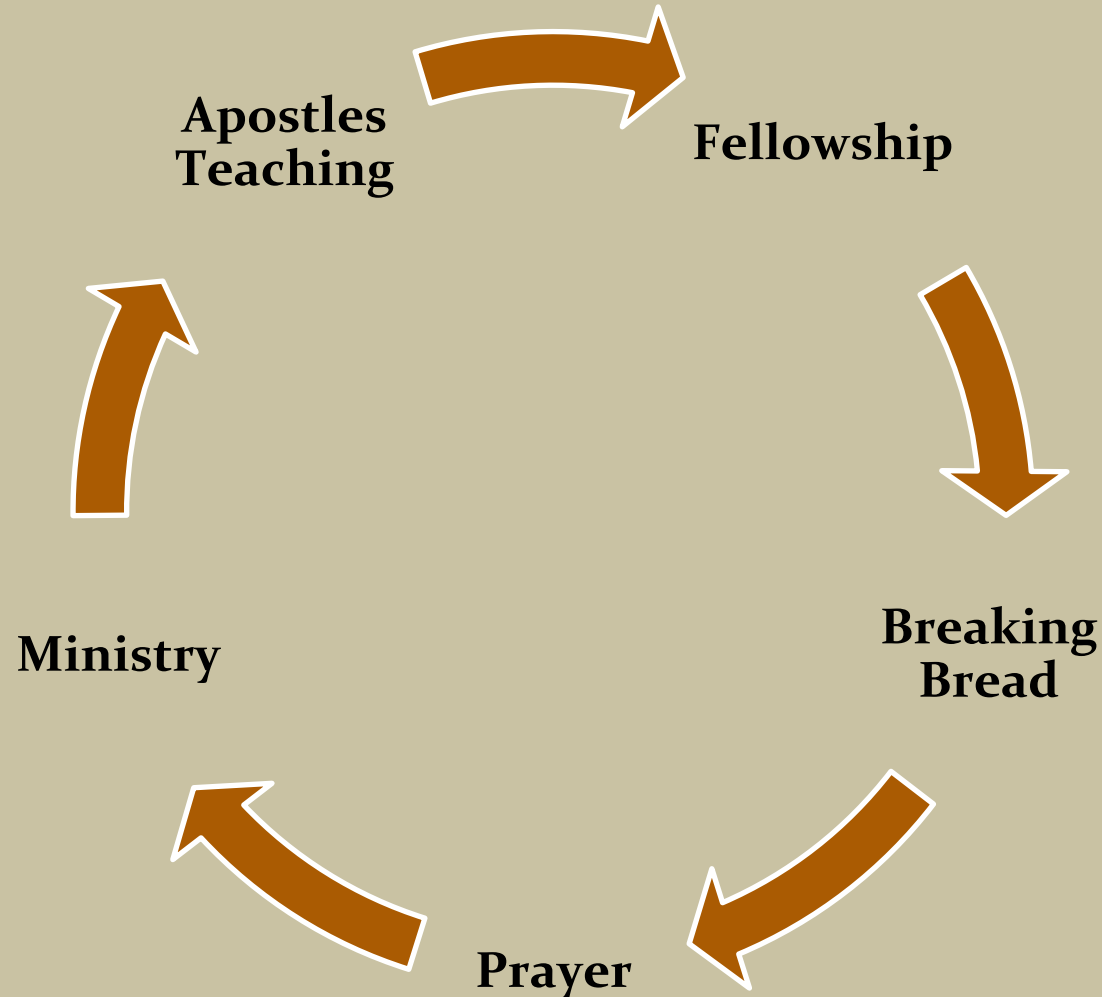
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[AWE]



5 things happened as God's people took form:

1. Apostle's Teaching
2. Fellowship
3. Breaking Bread
4. Prayer
5. Ministry





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The image features a central graphic of a flame in shades of orange and red, positioned to the left of the word 'ACTS'. The word 'ACTS' is rendered in a large, bold, orange, sans-serif font. Above 'ACTS' is the word 'The' in a smaller, white, cursive script. Below 'ACTS' is the phrase 'OF THE APOSTLES' in a white, all-caps, serif font. The background is a dark, textured olive green with stylized, light-colored wave-like patterns at the top and bottom.