

A stylized orange flame logo with three distinct tongues of fire, positioned to the left of the word 'ACTS'.

*The*  
**ACTS**  
OF THE APOSTLES



## *Today's Scripture Reading*

Acts 9:19-25



<sup>19</sup> and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. <sup>20</sup> And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.” <sup>21</sup> And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?” <sup>22</sup> But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.



<sup>23</sup> When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, <sup>24</sup> but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, <sup>25</sup> but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

A stylized flame logo in a vibrant orange-red color, positioned to the left of the word 'ACTS'. The flame has three distinct upward-pointing tongues.

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## JOY OF EVANGELISM

*Isaiah 52:7*

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of him who brings good news,  
who publishes peace, who brings good news of  
happiness,  
who publishes salvation,  
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”



## JOY OF EVANGELISM

### *2 Corinthians 2:14-15*

<sup>14</sup> But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. <sup>15</sup> For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing,



PERSONAL EVANGELISM IS THE CHRISTIAN WORK  
IN WHICH WE ARE DEALING WITH A PERSON'S  
SPIRITUAL NEEDS, PARTICULARLY SALVATION, IN  
ONE ON ONE WITNESSING OPPORTUNITIES.

*Acts 9:20*

And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the  
synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”





# The Pace and Passion of Paul

PAUL'S PACE

Immediately: soon as



## PAUL'S PASSION

### *Acts 22:3-5*

<sup>3</sup> “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day. <sup>4</sup> I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, <sup>5</sup> as the high priest and the whole council of elders can bear me witness. From them I received letters to the brothers, and I journeyed toward Damascus to take those also who were there and bring them in bonds to Jerusalem to be punished.



## PAUL'S PASSION

### *Galatians 1:13-14*

<sup>13</sup> For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it. <sup>14</sup> And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers.



## PAUL'S ZEAL REDEEMED

### *Romans 15:18-20*

<sup>18</sup> For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, <sup>19</sup> by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ; <sup>20</sup> and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation



## *Acts 9:21*

And all who heard him were amazed and said, “Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?”



## 3 REACTIONS TO THE TRANSFORMED LIFE

1. Baffled: *Acts 9:21*

2. Astonished: *Acts 2:7*

And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?”

3. Praise: *Galatians 1:23-24*

<sup>23</sup> They only were hearing it said, “He who used to persecute us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy.” <sup>24</sup> And they glorified God because of me.



THERE IS NO BETTER *momentum*  
*outreach* THEN THE MOMENTUM OF THE  
*reached going out.*



## PAUL'S DISCIPLINED LIFE

*Act 9:22*

But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

EVANGELISM IS A MEANS OF GRACE  
THAT GOD USES TO MATURE US.





## *Acts 9:23*

<sup>23</sup> When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him, <sup>24</sup> but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, <sup>25</sup> but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

## *2 Corinthians 11:32-33*

<sup>32</sup> At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, <sup>33</sup> but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.



## PAUL'S SUFFERING

### *Acts 9:15-16*

<sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. <sup>16</sup> For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.”



## PAUL'S SUFFERING

### *2 Corinthians 11:23-27*

<sup>23</sup> Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. <sup>24</sup> Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. <sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea;



## PAUL'S SUFFERING

### *2 Corinthians 11:23-27*

<sup>26</sup> on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; <sup>27</sup> in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.



## PAUL'S EMBRACE OF SUFFERING

*Acts 21:13*

Then Paul answered, “What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”



## *3 reasons to embrace suffering*

IT'S A PART OF THE SAINT'S LIFE

*2 Timothy 3:12*

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted

*Galatians 6:17*

From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.



## IT'S A PART OF THE SAINT'S LIFE

### *Matthew 5:10-11*

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.



## SUFFERING GROWS AND ASSURES US

*Philippians 3:10*

10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,





## SUFFERING GROWS AND ASSURES US

*1 Peter 1:6-7*

<sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.



## SUFFERING GROWS AND ASSURES US

### *Philippians 3:8-10*

<sup>8</sup> Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— <sup>10</sup> that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,



## PREPARES US FOR ETERNITY

### *Romans 8:18*

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

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## PREPARES US FOR ETERNITY

*1 Peter 5:9-10*

9 Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. <sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.



## PREPARES US FOR ETERNITY

### *1 Corinthians 1:6-7*

<sup>6</sup> even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ,

The logo features a stylized flame in shades of orange and red, positioned to the left of the word 'ACTS'. The flame has a jagged, organic shape with a gradient from dark red at the base to bright orange at the top. The word 'ACTS' is rendered in a bold, sans-serif font, with the 'A' being particularly large and integrated with the flame's shape. The background is a dark, textured brown with stylized, wavy patterns in a lighter, muted greenish-brown color, suggesting a landscape or a stylized sky.

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