

ACTS EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, April 16, 2023 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 22 | The First "Christians"

Acts 11:19-26

Share the **GOSPEL** with all (v. 19-21)

wherever/however God sends you John 20:21; Acts 8:4

overcome your bias (intentional & unintentional) Romans 2:11

and **ENOURAGE** all (v. 22-24)

grace & gladness Galatians 5:22-23; Psalm 16:9; 21:6; 70:4; Proverbs 15:13

Holy Spirit & faith Acts 6:5

—and don't do it **ALONE**. (v. 25-26)

bring someone with you v. 21; Matthew 28:20

for the long haul Acts 13:1-3

TITLES USED IN ACTS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

In Acts, God's redeemed people (those who've repented and put their faith in Christ) are referred to with many titles.

Believers

1:15; 2:44; 4:32; 5:12; 9:41; 10:45; 15:2, 23; 16:1, 15; 21:25

The Church

5:11; 8:1, 3; 9:31; 11:22; 12:1, 5; 13:1; 14:23; 15:3-4, 41; 16:5; 18:22; 20:17

Disciples

6:1-2, 7; 9:1, 10, 19, 26, 36; 11:29; 13:52; 14:20-22; 18:23; 19:9; 21:4-5, 16

Brother/Sister | brothers/sisters

6:3; 9:17, 30; 10:23; 11:1, 29; 12:17; 14:2; 15:3, 22, 32-33, 36; 16:2, 40; 17:6, 10; 18:18, 27; 21:7, 17; 28:14-15

The Way

9:2; 19:9, 23; 24:22

The Lord's People

9:32

Christians

11:26; 26:28

Follower/followers

17:34; 22:4; 24:14

The Flock

20:28-29

Adapted from Bruce B. Barton and Grant R. Osborne, Acts, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1999), 197.



Text us at **833-271-8805**.

Text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, "Pray for..." followed by your request.

Or if you just need someone to talk to, start texting us with whatever's going on and someone will be in touch via text.



Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

What is this? — Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

Welcome to Life Group!

Getting to Know You

One goal of Life Groups is to get to know one another and engage in conversation. Along those lines, here's a random question to discuss and break the ice as you get going: *When would you say something old is better than something new?*

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Digging Deeper

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week. For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this guide for further study personally.

1. Repeatedly in Acts we see that the Holy Spirit wants to change us and also change the world through us. This week we saw Barnabas was glad, full of the Holy Spirit and faith. Sometimes we may think the Holy Spirit isn't doing much because we aren't aware of the variety of ways he works. How do the following verses describe what the Holy Spirit does for us and through us?

Circle or highlight any words or phrases that catch your attention.

- **Underline** what you think is important to remember.
- **Put an X** next to anything that confuses you.

³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. **ROMANS 5:3-5 (NIV)**

¹² Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. **ROMANS 8:12-17 (NIV)**

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." **ACTS 1:8 (NIV)**

(Study Guide continues on back panel...)

Welcome to Wawasee!

OUR MISSION

We are sent to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.

YOUR PATHWAY

If you call Wawasee Bible “home”, we challenge you to pursue three things:

1. Gather



Show up regularly and gather with us for worship.

2. Grow



Don't just show up, grow up spiritually and connect in a growth ministry like Life Groups.

3. Go!



Go and serve somewhere. Contribute as much or more than you consume!

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find for Acts 11:20-24 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

²⁰ But **there** were **some** of them, men of **Cyprus** and **Cyrene**, who on **coming** to **Antioch** **spoke** to the **Hellenists** **also**, **preaching** the **Lord Jesus**. ²¹ And the **hand** of the **Lord** was with them, and a **great number** who **believed** turned to the **Lord**. ²² The **report** of this **came** to the **ears** of the **church** in **Jerusalem**, and they **sent**

Barnabas to **Antioch**.

²³ When he **came** and

saw the **grace** of God,

he was **glad**, and he

exhorted them all to

remain faithful to the

Lord with **steadfast**

purpose, ²⁴ for he was

a **good** man, **full** of

the Holy Spirit and of

faith. And a **great**

many people were

added to the **Lord**.

T U R N E D R E C P L O R D
I C C C A M E B Y R R F T D
U A Y H V F P P R E M A I N
M J P U R P O S E B I I O B
P E R R T N R T N A U T T G
P R U C B H T E E R O H A I
R U S H B C X A X N U E G S
E S O M E O A D H A Y R C A
A A F T L M N F O B S E N T
C L U V I I T A R A L J H S
H E L L E N I S T S G E A Y
I M L H V G O T E A R S L G
N U M B E R C X D D A U S O
G L A D D J H A N D C S O O
S P O K E C B Y G R E A T D

life groups Study Guide (continued)

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever — ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be[a] in you. JOHN 14:16-17 (NIV)

See Also: JOHN 16:12-17 LUKE 10:21 ACTS 9:32 2 CORINTHIANS 3:18 EPHESIANS 3:16

- How do these verses add to or confirm your understanding of how the Holy Spirit works in your life and in the world?
- Which one of these verses is the most important for you to remember and why?
- In terms of how you live and how you allow the Holy Spirit to work through you, is there anything you need to start doing or do more of in order to be more in sync with the Holy Spirit?

2. It is incredibly difficult to live the Christian life on our own strength rather than relying on the Holy Spirit and the power he provides. What do the following verses teach us about relying on the Holy Spirit's power rather than our own?

2 Corinthians 12:6-10 Zechariah 4:6 Galatians 2:20

- What challenges do you face trying to tap into God's power to live the Christian life?
- Where could you go to find help in order to more consistently tap into God's power?
- Relying on God's power does not mean we give up personal responsibility in making good choices to live the Christian life. God is calling us to live a life of "active dependency." How could you balance relying on God's power while still maintaining personal responsibility to actively obey?

Prayer

As you close, take time to pray for each other. Pray especially that God would help us forgive and love... as well as crush our biases toward people.

Divide into separate groups of men and women and pray for one another.

This week's Study Guide is adapted in part from a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

Wawasee Community Bible Church

2035 East 1300 North | Milford, Indiana 46542 | 574-658-9161 | wawaseebible.com

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PART 22

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ACTS 11:19-26



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Please register your attendance on our digital Connect Card by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera, or by visiting wawasee.today in your web browser. Update your contact info, share prayer requests, or just let us know how we can serve you! You can also access today's bulletin using the same QR or link.