



Week 1: Where we've been, where we are going
Sunday, January 9, 2022

† Why we're here
Acts 1:1-10

† Where we've been and where we're going

Scene 1: AD 30-34. *The birth of the church*

- Jesus' resurrection and ascension
- Pentecost and the birth of 'The Way'
- Growth of the community of believers in Jerusalem
- Onset of persecution, Paul's persecution

Scene 2: AD 35-39. *The Gospel opens to the Gentiles*

- Paul's conversion, Paul in Damascus, Arabia, Jerusalem
- Paul takes refuge in Cilicia and Syria
- Jerusalem church expands into Israel
- Peter's ministry and conversion of Cornelius

Scene 3: AD 40-45. *Gospel expands beyond Israel*

- Peter defends Gospel going to the Gentiles
- Gospel spreads to North Africa and Syria
- Paul and Barnabas in Antioch
- Believers first called Christians in Antioch
- Peter's arrest/escape from prison in Jerusalem. Peter exits scene.

Scene 4: AD 46-49. *The next major steps*

- First missionary journey
- Jerusalem Council
- Paul returns to Antioch, writes book of Galatians

Scene 5: AD 49-52. *The Gospel reaches Greece*

- Second missionary journey
- Paul writes 1st and 2nd Thessalonians from Corinth

————— ❧ AD 53 - We Are Here ❧ —————

Scene 6: AD 53-57. *The Gospel spreads as resistance intensifies*

- Third missionary journey
- Paul writes 1st Corinthians from Ephesus
- Paul writes 2nd Corinthians from Macedonia
- Paul writes Romans from Corinth

Scene 7: AD 57-59. *Back to Israel*

- Paul arrives in Jerusalem.
- Paul arrested at the temple, Romans protect him from threats
- Paul imprisoned two years in Caesarea
- Paul on trial in Caesarea

Scene 9: AD 59-60. *The last journey*

- Paul travels to Rome, shipwrecked on Malta
- Paul arrives in Rome, begins period of house arrest

‡ Engaging Acts: reminding ourselves of a few key concepts

- Acts is a time of TRANSITION
- The key question of DESCRIPTIVE vs NORMATIVE
- Big themes of Acts:
 - GOD is the growing His church
 - The centrality of Christ and His RESURRECTION
 - The importance of the COMMUNITY of believers

‡ Beginning with a goodbye
Romans 16:25-27

Next week: Acts 10, Week 2- Against all odds: Acts 19:1-10