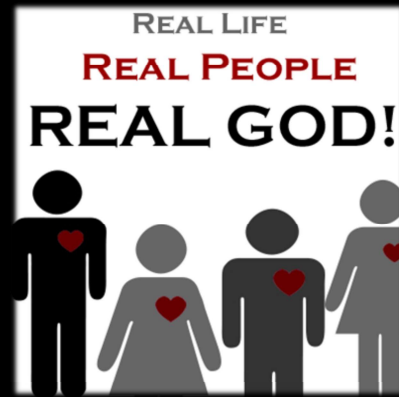




**REAL LIFE GROUPS
ACTIVE LOVE CHURCH
JULY 4TH, 2021**

- Worship
- Teaching
- Discussion
- Prayer





VISION

We want every one in McGregor to have an opportunity to experience the *active* love and presence of God.



Get It



Grow It



Give It



ACTS SERIES

- Pentecost and Overview
- The First Church (Acts 1-4)
- Witnesses in Jerusalem (Acts 5-8:3)
- Witnesses in Judea and Samaria (8:4-12)
- 1st Missionary Journey (Acts 13-15:35)
- 2nd Missionary Journey (Acts 15:36-18:22)
- **3rd Missionary Journey (Acts 18:23-25:12)**
- Journey to Rome (Acts 25:13-28)



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

- Acts 1:8 - 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. - Jesus
- Acts 2:42 - They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. - Luke
- Acts 7:55 - But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. - Stephen



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

- Acts 11:15 - “As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning.” - Peter
- Acts 15:29 - “You must abstain from eating food offered to idols, from consuming blood or the meat of strangled animals, and from sexual immorality. If you do this, you will do well.” - James



Paul visited the Roman province of Galatia.
 Many people believe that the book of Galatians was written during the Acts 13-14 time period.

<https://www.biblestudy.org/maps/apostle-paul-third-missionary-journey-large-map.html>



SAUL IN EPHESUS 19:1-22

- Paul baptizes Ephesians in the Holy Spirit
- Paul's methods
- Seven Sons of Sceva
- Many Ephesians repent!
- Paul receives a Word of Knowledge by Impression

Chapter 18: Apollos was eloquent in Ephesus, but he was also teachable by the apostles

Paul used both signs and wonders (1 Cor 2, Acts 19:11) AND persuasive arguments (Acts 19:8) to reach the lost.

Let's give credit: These 7 sons of a priest had **successfully cast out demons in the past in the name of Jesus**. They were out there doing it, in faith.

No explanation can truly be given for why they were over powered in this case that isn't extra-biblical. A couple of possibilities:

- They became confident in themselves, rather than reliant on Jesus.
- They believed that the name of Paul somehow added to the name of Jesus.
- They needed more prayer and fasting. (Mark 9:40)
- The demon testified about Jesus! This helped glorify Jesus in Ephesus. (v17, 20)

Repent = turning their ways > burning millions of dollars of evil books

v20 NT example of Word of Knowledge



PROPHETS IN ACTION

Acts 21

- Philip the Deacon creates a prophetic culture in Caesarea
- Many prophecies of trouble in Jerusalem
- Paul returns to Jerusalem anyway!
- Paul is arrested as an Egyptian leader of an assassin army?

Acts is very repetitive. It talks about Paul's calling and travel to new areas, his ministry, his successes, and his ultimate rejection.

It is very strange that the Roman commander would mistake Paul as a military threat, so weird that to me it seems divine. Without this mistaken identity and protection by the Roman soldiers, it's possible that Paul may have been killed by the mob!

Acts 8:40 says Philip stayed in Caesarea

Pastor John's prophecy about not getting the library director position served to prepare his heart. Prophecy doesn't always tell us what we should do.



PAUL ON TRIAL

Acts 22

- Paul gives his testimony to everyone who will listen
- Paul divides the high council by claiming he is on trial because of his hope in the resurrection of the dead
 - Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection, angels, or spirits
- The Lord encourages Paul that he will preach in Rome!
- Paul is transferred to Caesarea by Roman guard to avoid assassination
- Evangelizes: Felix (2yrs) > Festus > King Agrippa > Caesar's house

Paul gives his testimony to everyone who will listen, as often as possible.

From our perspective, it's difficult to imagine how the Sadducees and Pharisees could both believe in Yahweh but have such vastly different conclusions about the after life.

But if you think about it, there aren't very many references to a bodily resurrection in the OT. There are clear references to heaven and hell (sheol) in the OT, but not to a bodily resurrection. The messianic prophecies can all be interpreted as an Earthly ruler and kingdom.

Says the roman soldiers pulled Paul from the high council for fear they would tear him apart!

For 2 years governor Felix held Paul hoping for a bribe. Holding Paul also gained Felix favor with the Jews.



NEW MEMORY VERSE

- Acts 23:6c - I stand on trial because of the hope of the resurrection of the dead. - Paul



INSTRUCTIONS

- Write down the memory verse, Acts 23:6c
- Spend a few minutes reviewing the memory verses
- Read Acts 19:1-12; 20:16-35; 21:8-14; 22:1-22
- How did we see the Holy Spirit working in these chapters?
- What promise, truth, or command is being highlighted to you?