



Acts

THE CHURCH

Home Community Acts Week One Guide

Welcome group and go into icebreakers (Icebreaker Suggestions)

- If you have new people in your group, have everyone introduce themselves. "Tell us your name and a little about yourself. I'll start..." If everyone already knows one another, you can ask for an update on how they're doing and what they are grateful for today.
- Icebreaker option: What three adjectives would your family use to describe you?

Walk through curriculum pace:

- Go through the series schedule. Duration: 8 weeks (April 26/27-June 14/15)
- Look through the general guidelines for community groups.
 - Focus on Mutuality – By joining in community, we get to see how God is changing other people's lives while allowing others to see how God is changing us. In community we encourage others, but also are encouraged ourselves; that it's not just about giving/imparting/teaching, but also receiving/accepting/learning.
 - Focus on Respect & Vulnerability – Vulnerability aids and speeds our growth, but safety is needed to be vulnerable. We create safety by respecting one another.

Walk them through week 1:

- Each week starts with an opportunity to take notes from Sunday's Message. Encourage group members to bring their book with them to church and take notes.
- Tomorrow is Day 1 – Read through "Baptism" (p.3-4). Day 2 is p. 5-6. Day 3 is...etc.
- Days 1-5 consist mostly of scripture and 1-3 prompts to frame that day's reading.
- Day 6 is the day they reflect and look back on all that they've read. Every week will end with the same prompts.
- Day 7 is a day to practice being silent before God.
- Encourage them to come next week ready to share a highlight, scripture, or personal reflection from week 1

Closing time together

- Ask if anyone has any questions or needs any clarification
- How can we pray for one another? - Make sure you are taking down prayer requests so that you can follow up with people from week to week. Some groups start a text group together to be able to pray for one another during the week.
- End meeting with prayer



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Act's Daily Devotional Questions

What was a favorite verse or passage from this past week?

As you reflect on the past week, what is God teaching you?

Sermon Questions:

Looking back at the description of the early church from NT Wright, what stands out? What makes you excited? What questions does it bring up?

We talked about four different people who have been baptized, where do you find yourself among those four?

Share the story of your baptism (time, place, significance). If you haven't been baptized, is baptism something you have considered?

We talked about how when we get baptized that we are taking all the areas of our life and learning to align it with Jesus. When we talked about that, what part of your life came to mind that you need to begin realigning with Jesus. / What part are you discovering or rediscovering to align with Jesus

NT Wright Quote

The church was the original multicultural project, with Jesus as its only point of identity. It was known, and was for this reason seen as both attractive and dangerous, as a worship-based, spiritually renewed, multi-ethnic, polychrome, mutually supportive, outward-facing, culturally creative, chastity-celebrating, socially responsible fictive kinship group, gender-blind in leadership, generous to the poor and courageous in speaking up for the voiceless.