

ACTS

God Is Still Working Today

AT A GLANCE:

Our talk series, *ACTS, God Is Still Working Today*, is about the fifth book of the New Testament traditionally called the Acts of the Apostles.

The thesis of the entire series: The great work that God began in Acts continues to this day—and you're part of this story.

AFTER THE SERIES:

What happened to the Apostles is happening to us. Because God has not changed. Whatever God did in the past, He's still doing it today. And if you open your heart to Him, He'll do amazing work in your life.

Talk 3: "Perspective "

WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT:

The key message of Talk 1, which is titled *Power*, is God's Power Is In You.

Talk 2, titled *Problem*, deals with problems— the bad things that hap-pen to us. The key message of the talk: God will turn your bad situation into your best provision.

Talk 3 is titled *Perspective* because it is about the power of perspective. There are a couple of meanings of the word perspec-tive. For our purpose here, the meaning of the word perspective is this: a particular attitude toward or way of regarding some-thing; a point of view.

Perspective is like the steering wheel of your life. Perspective is so powerful, *if you change your perspective, you change your entire life.*

Here's Bro. Bo's thesis statement: *If you have a real encounter with God, your perspective will gradually but totally change. Your perspective to-wards God, towards others, towards yourself, and towards life—all that will change.*

The key message of Talk 3 is Get a Jesus Encounter.

I. REVIEW THE KEY BIBLE VERSES:

Review the words of Jesus in Matthew 6:22-23 NKJV) :
"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness."

Relate the key Bible verse with the story of the apostle Paul:

The explosion of the Jesus movement started with a man who was actually trying to crush it and erase it from the face of the earth. His name was Saul. He was a Pharisee and he hated Christians. He saw the Jesus-Cult as the cancerous tumor in Jewish society, infecting the pure religion of Yahweh. And he believed God had appointed him to be the sharp scalpel that would slice off this tumor before it infects others.

Explain why Saul was renamed "Paul". At the time, Jews usually had two names: their Hebrew name— as in "Saul"— and, since they were under the Romans, their Latin or Greek names, as in "Paul," the Latin version of "Saul".

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Talk 1:
Power

Talk 2:
Problem

Talk 3:
Perspective

Talk 4:
Big Day

Notes:



When he became a missionary for Jesus, Saul used the name Paul so that people he was trying to evangelize—the Gentiles—would feel at ease and relate with him.

As he explained in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23:

Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. 20 To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. 21 To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. 23 I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

II. ASK FOR REACTIONS AND REFLECTIONS

Ask members about their Jesus Encounter. Ask how they relate with the three steps how the apostle Paul encountered Jesus:

3 Steps of Paul's Conversion—And Yours Too!

Step 1: You Meet God:

Saul receives a Divine Visitation. Saul was walking on the road, minding his own business, and out of the blue, Jesus popped in.

Step 2: You Fall Down.

In Paul's conversion story, Luke said, "He fell to the ground..."

Humility in Latin is humus, which means soil. Think of the phrase "down to earth". In a literal sense, Saul fell "down to earth".

When God visits you, the first thing that happens to you is Humility. Without it, there can be no real conversion.

For a long time, Saul's soul was blind. His perspective was so dark, he couldn't see Jesus. The difference is that now, he knew he was blind. And that's humility.

Many today are blind but don't know they're blind. God will allow you to fall into the ground to wake you up to the reality that you're blind.

Step 3: You Follow God

Pride says, "I obey no one." But when you encounter God, you become humble, and you obey. Jesus told Saul, "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." And Saul obeyed. Saul's initial encounter with Jesus was so profound, he wanted to encounter Him again and again. And that meant following Jesus for the rest of his life.

Warning: He doesn't want a short-term relationship with you.

God wants your encounter with Him to last forever.

III. PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

If they haven't yet, pray that everyone will find 20 minutes each day to read the Acts and find the links to the short inspirational videos on various days. You'll find our "Read Acts in 30 Days" Plan in our Feast's Facebook Page. You'll also find links to short inspirational videos on various days. You'll love it.

For those who already experienced a Jesus Encounter, pray that their encounter with Him will last forever.

For those who have not yet experienced a Jesus Encounter, pray over them that they may have this awesome, life-changing

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experience.

Help them find schedules about our Jesus Encounter Seminars and accompany them to the seminar.

Pray that as this talk series aims for, everyone will be convinced and have deep faith that God Is Still Working Today.

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