

MISSION IMPROBABLE

HOW THE GOSPEL SET THE WORLD ON FIRE



CHURCH *of the* **INCARNATION**

INCARNATION.ORG/ACTS

part I PETER & THE SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL IN JERUSALEM & PALESTINE AD 32-44

ACTS 1-2
Jesus ascends into heaven and sends his Holy Spirit upon his disciples. The Church is born, although initially as a sect within Judaism.

ACTS 3-4
The disciples preach the Gospel and miraculously heal people, continuing the Church's mission that Jesus left for them. Many are converted, and worshipping communities are established. Persecution ensues.

ACTS 5-7
Deacons are appointed to help with the growing ministry. Many oppose the Church and she witnesses her first martyr, Stephen.

ACTS 8-9
Believers scatter around Jerusalem, the Gospel follows. The Ethiopian court official is converted. This began the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. Saul, on his way to persecute Christians, is confronted by the Risen Christ and is converted. He changes his name to Paul.

ACTS 10-12
Peter has a vision telling him to preach to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. When he does, Cornelius receives the Holy Spirit. The Church becomes a community of Jews and Gentiles. More conversions, more persecution. The apostle James is martyred.

ACTS 1-2
AD 32



ACTS 3-4
AD 32



ACTS 5-7
AD 32



ACTS 8-9
AD 33-34



ACTS 10-12
37-44



part II PAUL & THE SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL IN ASIA & EUROPE AD 48-57

ACTS 13-15
Paul begins his first journey, establishing churches in Syria and Asia Minor. The apostles initiate the Jerusalem Council. This council is the Church's first synod that establishes how the Church interprets and follows Scripture.

ACTS 16-17
Paul begins his second journey, establishing churches in Philippi, Thessalonica, and Athens, and the believers are accused of "turning the world upside down". It is clear that Gospel proclamation and persecution go hand-in-hand.

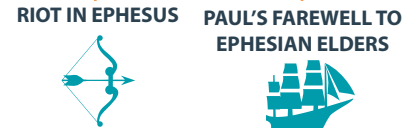
ACTS 18-19
Paul's third and last missionary journey covers Corinth and Ephesus. The Church becomes infamous for overturning and disrupting the socio-economic values and idolatries of her time that oppose Christ.

ACTS 20
Paul is determined to travel to Jerusalem knowing that it will mean certain death for him. He bids farewell to the elders at Ephesus giving them his final instructions, which ring true for us even today.

ACTS 13-15
AD 48-49



ACTS 16-17
AD 49-55



ACTS 18-20
AD 55-57

part III PAUL DEFENDS SEDITION CHARGES BEFORE RULERS & KINGS AD 59-62

ACTS 21-25
In Jerusalem, Paul is arrested and tried by the Jewish Council for supposedly preaching against Moses and defiling the Temple. He appeals to Caesar, fulfilling God's plan to take the Gospel to the very heart of the Roman Empire.

ACTS 26-28
Paul is shipped away to Rome, where Acts ends. In Rome, under arrest, Paul continues his evangelistic ministry, and writes his letters to the Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon.

BEYOND ACTS
Paul is acquitted, arrested again, and then executed. Similarly, all the apostles are also executed as the Church continues to experience persecution while growing rapidly and following Christ.

TODAY
Since Acts, the Church has continued Christ's mission enduring persecution, schism, heresy, and opposition. By His Spirit, she has faithfully delivered Apostolic teaching and tradition in Word and Sacrament, in every time and place, even today at Incarnation.

ACTS 21-23
AD 59

ACTS 24-26
AD 60-62

ACTS 27-28
AD 62



fall 2017

MISSION IMPROBABLE
incarnation.org/acts

OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDY ACTS

SUNDAY PREACHING SERIES

The Church was the most improbable of missions, but her success was no accident. In all Sunday worship services, you will learn how the first Christians set up the Church, the challenges they overcame, and how the work of the church is our work.

AT HOME DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Purchase your copy of *Mission Improbable: How the Gospel Set the World on Fire*. This distinctly Anglican devotional was written by our very own Kevin Dodge, specifically for our parish. Join us as we read along!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL SUNDAYS AT 10:20 AM

**MISSION IMPROBABLE:
AN EXPOSITION OF ACTS**
WITH KEVIN DODGE IN THE GREAT HALL

Explore how the “Good News” proclaimed in Acts is really a re-reading of several key OT texts in light of Jesus’ resurrection and ascension.

MISSION NOW

WITH MTR. SAMIRA IZADI PAGE
IN ROOM 115

Discover how you are a part of God’s mission just like the apostles and first disciples in the book of Acts.

ACTS: HOW THE CHURCH LEARNED TO BE THE CHURCH

WITH MICHAEL STURDY
IN ROOM 119

A look at how the apostolic Church learned to make decisions amid socio-cultural upheaval, with applications for us today.

ADULT WEEKDAY CLASSES

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

WITH CHRIS ADAMS

WEDNESDAYS AT 9:30 AM IN ROOM 205

Includes a weekly study guide and small group discussion.

MISSION IMPROBABLE: DISCUSSION

WITH KEVIN DODGE

MONDAYS AT NOON IN ROOM 115-116

A discussion on the book of Acts —get your questions answered. Bring a brown bag lunch.

EXPLORING THE APOSTOLIC PREACHING IN ACTS

WITH CARL ANDERSON

TUESDAYS AT NOON IN ROOM 119

Explore the sermons in Acts to see how they challenge us today to love God, engage with Scripture, and join him on his mission.

GROWTH GROUPS

Adults gather to study Acts, pray and fellowship this fall around Dallas. Groups listed at incarnation.org/connect.

CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kids through 5th grade will learn about how the first Christians set up the Church and how these early disciples began the mission we are called to carry out. [Classes by age](#) are on the back of your worship bulletin.

VIDEO PRESENTATIONS

Be sure to sign up for [eNews](#) at incarnation.org so that you receive links to insightful and educational videos that explain the books of Acts in a concise and meaningful way.