



## Part 9: Acts of the Apostles

Resurrection to Patmos (The Early Church)

### Route 66

#### INTRODUCTION – God is on a worldwide mission to save

- Genesis 12:3; Numbers 14:21; Isaiah 11:9
- Habakkuk 2:14 - *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.*
- ▶ Question: Whose job was it to get the light and blessings of God out to all nations?
- ▶ Answer: Israel (Isaiah 49:6)

#### REVIEW PROGRESS ON ROUTE 66

LESSON #1: If we miss our purpose & calling in life, we run the risk of being set aside by God.

#### FROM RESURRECTION TO PATMOS

- ▶ God's marching orders for the Church (That means you and me!)
- Matthew 24:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46-48; John 20:21; Acts 1:8

LESSON #2: God has given every follower of Christ the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us be externally focussed.

LESSON #3: Christianity is not for wimps ... you need to count the cost of following Christ & be willing to pay it.

- Matthew 16:24; Luke 14:25-26; 2 Timothy 3:12

LESSON #4: As we yield to the Holy Spirit's leading, God will give us unique opportunities & amazing circumstantial guidance.

LESSON #5: We need a new norm in our Christian experience... like that of the Early Church!

#### CONCLUSION

##### ▶ Facts to Acknowledge

- ① Our primary biblical objectives in life are to love God & our neighbors
- ② This message is about loving our neighbors
- ③ Neighbor =
  - members of my extended family
  - those who live near me
  - my circle of friends & acquaintances
  - those I work with or go to school with

##### ▶ Steps to Engage (Action Plan)

- ① Regularly greet your neighbors
- ② Make a neighborhood map
- ③ Intentionally be a good neighbor
  - Prayer
  - Care
  - Share

## LifeGroup Questions - Doing Life Together

Week of March 12-18, 2017

### The Acts of the Apostles

#### Route 66

Sermons can be viewed online at [creeksideeg.com/sermon](http://creeksideeg.com/sermon)

Questions are based on the NIV translation of the Bible

#### PRAYER

Begin your time together by thanking God for Jesus' "Great Commission" and the remarkable expansion of the church in the first century A.D. Ask Him to guide your discussion.

#### MY STORY

Describe a time when you joined or became part of an organization with a stated mission. What was your part in that mission?

#### DIGGING DEEPER

1. What from Sunday's message regarding Paul's missionary journeys inspired you in your own journey to live for Christ in a hostile world?
2. Read **Habakkuk 2:14**. God's ultimate goal is to fill this planet with His glory. According to **Acts 1:8**, what is our role in participating in God's goal for this world?
3. Read **Matthew 28:18-20**, **Mark 16:15**, **Luke 24:46-48** and **John 20:21**. According to these verses, what "work" did Jesus give us to do? How are you glorifying God in this "work" within your family, church, workplace, or community?
4. In order to do God's work of disciple making, God has given every believer the indwelling Holy Spirit. The Spirit was promised by Jesus in **John 14:15-17** and again in **Acts 1:8**. What do these passages teach about the Holy Spirit and the help He can give? How have you sensed the Spirit working in your life and ministry?
5. In **Matthew 16:24** Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." What does it mean to "deny oneself" in following Christ? Give some examples.

6. Read **2 Timothy 3:12**. What opposition or resistance have you experienced while seeking to serve others or share your faith? How does this verse help Christians gain the "right mindset" in difficult circumstances?

#### DIGGING EVEN DEEPER

7. What are the four commands regarding the Holy Spirit, and what does each one mean? Notice that two of them are what we "should not do," and two are what we "should do." Give an example to illustrate each one.
  - **Ephesians 4:30-32** - Do not \_\_\_\_\_ the Holy Spirit
  - **1 Thessalonians 5:19** - Do not \_\_\_\_\_ the Holy Spirit
  - **Ephesians 5:18** - Be \_\_\_\_\_ with the Holy Spirit
  - **Galatians 5:16** - \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit

#### TAKING IT HOME

8. What prayer request did the Apostle Paul have in the following two passages? What does this teach us about Paul, and how does it apply to us today?
  - **Ephesians 6:19-20**
  - **Colossians 4:4**
9. Mark the phrase below that best describes how you feel about serving in ministry:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ It excites me. I love it!
  - \_\_\_\_\_ I'm eager but cautious.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ It scares me a little.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ It makes me very nervous.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Other...

#### PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for the needs of your group and spend time asking God to help you continue to serve or begin to serve in ministry.

2 Timothy 4:5 – *Do the work of an evangelist.*