

MISSION, PRACTICES, IMPACT AND METRICS IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

[Interaction Notes]

Where When Who	Key References	The Disciples' Practices	The Results	Recorded/noticed
<p>Jerusalem AD 30-32 The 12 Peter James Stephen</p>	<p>Acts 2:42. 46-47: <i>And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer... And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.</i></p> <p>Acts 4:4 <i>"those who heard the word believed... about 5,000."</i></p> <p>Acts 5:42: <i>And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.</i></p> <p>Acts 6:1-2: <i>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said</i></p> <p>Acts 6:7: <i>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word... And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.</i></p> <p>Other Key Events: Peter & John before Council (Acts 4), imprisoned, flogged, freed (Acts 5). Stephens defense and death (Acts 7)</p>			<p>Added numbers; growing harvest of new believers – evangelism impact</p> <p>The # of Conversions</p> <p>Training, teaching and preaching happened on a regular basis</p> <p>Well-being issues were taken seriously</p> <p>Multiplication, evangelism impact and growth.</p> <p>Church/Ekklesia: Acts 5:11; Acts 7:38; Acts 8:1; Acts 8:3;</p>

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<p>Palestine – Judea, Samaria</p> <p>AD 32-45</p> <p>Philip</p> <p>Peter</p> <p>Barnabas</p> <p>Paul</p>	<p>Acts 8:4-8. 12: <i>Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word. Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ... unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. So, there was much joy in that city... they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.</i></p> <p>Acts 8:35: <i>Then Philip opened his mouth and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.</i></p> <p>Acts 9:31: <i>So, the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.</i></p> <p>Acts 11:20-21: <i>preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord... great many people were added to the Lord.</i></p> <p>Acts 12:24: <i>But the word of God increased and multiplied.</i></p> <p>Other Key Events: Conversion of Saul & Peter's travelling ministry (Acts 9). Cornelius comes to Christ in Caesarea (Acts 10). Greeks in Antioch come to Christ (Acts 11:19-21). Famine in Jerusalem began (Acts 11:27ff). James killed. Peter arrested (Acts 12).</p>			<p>Geographical expansion was recorded – cities and regions are named</p> <p>Evangelism impact and gospel transformation</p> <p>Stories of healing</p> <p>Personal evangelism story The position and sphere of influence of the new believer</p> <p>The new geographical expansion: Ethiopia. Caesarea. Antioch/Greeks. (Multiplication)</p> <p>Growth in depth (built up) and growth in scope (multiplied)</p> <p>Conversions</p> <p>Church/Ekklesia: Acts 9:31; Acts 11:22; Acts 11:26; Acts 12:1; Acts 12:5; Acts 13:1</p>

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<p>Asia Minor AD 46-52.</p> <p>Paul's 1st journey Antioch, Seleucia, Cyprus, Salamis, Paphos, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe, Perga (12-18 months 3 more centers of expansion growing)</p> <p>Paul's 2nd journey Syria, Tarsus, Timothy joined, Troas, Macedonian vision, Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus to prepare, Caesarea, Jerusalem, Antioch (5 centers of kingdom expansion in 5 years)</p>	<p>Acts 13:49, 52: <i>And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.</i></p> <p>Acts 14:7, 22, 23 : <i>...they continued to preach the gospel... strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith...when they had appointed elders for them in every church.</i></p> <p>Acts 14:26-28: <i>after returning to Antioch they spent a long time with the disciples.</i></p> <p>Other Key Events: Council at Jerusalem (Acts 15)</p> <p>Acts 16:5: <i>So, the churches were being strengthened in the faith and were increasing in number daily.</i></p> <p>Acts 17:11: <i>they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily...</i></p> <p>Acts 17:17: <i>So, he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there.</i></p> <p>Acts 18:4: <i>And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.</i></p>			<p>Calling story</p> <p>Geographical expansion Discipleship growth (filled w/H.S.)</p> <p>Evangelism, discipleship, leadership installment and community formation New churches formed Spiritual & numeric growth.</p> <p>Church/Ekklesia: Acts 14:23; Acts 14:27</p> <p>The role and impact of God's word/Churches are renewed</p> <p>Targeted and open, broad-sowing, regular, persuasive evangelism</p>

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<p>AD 54-58</p> <p>Paul's 3rd Journey</p> <p><i>"From Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ; and thus, I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation" (Rom 15:20).</i></p>	<p>Acts 18:11: <i>And he stayed [in Corinth] a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.</i></p> <p>Other Key Events: The Gospel spread through leadership team (Paul, Silas, Timothy, Jason), saw healings, experienced persecution, a jailor came to Christ, focused on cities. Then they went back to Antioch and "spent some time there."</p> <p>Acts 19:8-11: <i>[in Ephesus] for three months spoke boldly, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks. And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul...</i></p> <p>Acts 19:17-18. 20: <i>And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled. Also, many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices... So, the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.</i></p> <p>Other Key Events: He went back to many of the young churches to "strengthen them". Eventually they landed in Ephesus for 2 years in Hall of Tyrannus. The hand of the Lord was on them as they went from "place to place." (Acts 19:13-19). People left their previous life and rejected "their practices" as the Lord Jesus was being magnified.</p>			<p>Dedicated time to building disciples</p> <p>Church/Ekklesia: Acts 15:3-4; Acts 15:22; Acts 15:41; Acts 16:5; Acts 18:22</p> <p>Discipleship</p> <p>Well-being</p> <p>Evangelism impact & exposure</p> <p>Transformation story</p> <p>Church/Ekklesia: Acts 19:32; Acts 19:39; Acts 19:41; Acts 20:17; Acts 20:28</p>

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<p>Europe AD 54-58.</p> <p>Paul's 4th Journey Rome and beyond. Asia, Macedonia, Cyprus, Crete, into the Adriatic Sea, Malta and to Rome</p>	<p>Acts: 28:30-31: <i>He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.</i></p> <p>Other Key Events: Paul's fourth journey took him to Asia, Macedonia, Cyprus, Crete, into the Adriatic Sea, Malta and to Rome.</p>			<p>Bold, regular evangelism and discipleship</p>

SUMMARY of METRICS – the following was repeatedly recorded as a result of the work of the Apostles, especially Paul:

- Gospel Engagement: conversations, preaching, broad-sowing
- Multiplication through Evangelism and Discipleship
- Training, Leadership Development and Training – establishing, equipping, enlisting empowering
- Geographic expansion through a partnership of a growing number of leaders
- New churches planted; faith communities formed and flourishing despite persecution
- Stories of evangelism, changed lives, healing, transformation, God’s miracles
- Well-being Engagement and impact – personal transformation and healing

The Acts of the Apostles spans from AD 30-62. During that time, the gospel spread to reach over 40M through the establishment of multiple kingdom centers of influence. Centers of gospel expansion were located in:

- Jerusalem (AD 30-32) and Palestine – Judea and Samaria (AD 32-45)
- Asia Minor & Balkans (AD 46-52)
 - Galatia & Cyprus during 1st Missionary Journey
 - Macedonia & Greece during 2nd Missionary Journey
 - Ephesus during Paul’s 3rd Missionary Journey (AD 54)
- Europe / Rome (AD 54-68)

These centers of influence expanded the church. Church/Ekklesia is mentioned 23 times in Acts: Acts 5:11; Acts 7:38; Acts 8:1; Acts 8:3; Acts 9:31; Acts 11:22; Acts 11:26; Acts 12:1; Acts 12:5; Acts 13:1; Acts 14:23; Acts 14:27; Acts 15:3-4; Acts 15:22; Acts 15:41; Acts 16:5; Acts 18:22; Acts 19:32; Acts 19:39; Acts 19:41; Acts 20:17; Acts 20:28 NAS

How does this inform what it will take for us to reach our cities for Christ and what we should measure?

Metrics — What we will Track

- **Stories** of changed lives, partnership, mobilization for discipleship, training, evangelism, and seeing groups started and churches planted
- **Reach 160m**
 - Gospel Presentations
 - Gospel Indicated Decisions
 - Holy Spirit Presentations
 - Follow-up Completed
- **Missional Communities (160,000 => 1/1000** in high-rises, digital spaces, neighborhoods and every segment of the city)
 - Groups/Faith Communities – 128,000 (80%)
 - Churches planted – 32,000 (20%)
 - Multiplying Generations
- **Number of Partners**
- **Mobilize Believers .5M – 1M**
 - Events and Number of people in training
 - Engaged Disciples
 - DME (Disciple-Making Evangelist) leaders multiplying
- **City Engagement Metric** (mobilize toward compassion & evangelism)