
[SERMON NOTES]

The Book of Acts is more _____ than prescriptive in nature

The first prayer request of the apostles was for _____!

God's _____ requires the Holy Spirit's provisions.

We _____ nothing as disciples

[QUICK REVIEW]

Looking at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

[MY STORY]

We all have things that are incredibly valuable to us. Perhaps it is a keepsake from your childhood. Perhaps it was a gift from someone that is very meaningful. Or perhaps it is valuable because you invested a lot into it. Whatever it is, we hold onto those things. We keep them safe. We protect them. We will have them as long as we can.

What would you say is your most prized possession?

[DIGGING DEEPER]

In this week's message, we heard about the incredibly valuable gift of the gospel, but how we are commissioned and called to give it away! We hoard nothing as disciples. We are to be generous.

What would you say are the reasons people would "hold onto" or "hoard" the gospel?"

Why do people have the good news of Jesus but not share it?

What is the difference between descriptive Scripture and prescriptive Scripture?

Not everyone is called to sell their house and live in a commune together. That isn't the heartbeat of Acts 4:32-37. There are examples of people doing this and God blessing it but that might not be what God is calling you towards. Rather, may we be unified under the name of Jesus and be generous with one another.

Pause and pray and ask God to reveal to you how you can grow in your generosity.

Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10. What does this passage say about the danger of not being generous?

During Paul's ministry, the church in Corinth had some issues. Paul wrote two letters to them (1 and 2 Corinthians) in which he addresses several issues in hopes to point them back to Jesus. He corrects them and rebukes them when necessary and encourages them as well. **READ 2 Corinthians 8:1-4.** Paul is using the Macedonian church as a good example of generosity for the church in Corinth.

What was the example of the Macedonian church and how might those principles show up in your own life?

Acts 4:32-37 and Acts 2:42-47 are two examples of what followers of Christ did in their lifetime. It explains their actions that were a result of their faith. If you were to write a summary of the actions in your life because of your faith, what would it say?

Write out a summary in the space below.

There are so many examples of great generosity before us. Big or small, we can learn from these examples. ***What are some examples that come to mind when you think about great generosity?*** They can be biblical, historical, or personal examples.

[WEEKLY READINGS]

Studies say that someone who reads their Bible 4 times or more a week improves their joy, happiness, contentment, and overall approval of their life. (1 Tim. 4:8-10,16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). As a church, we believe that! Below are 4 passages of Scripture this week to dive into to pull deeper on our weekend's message. We encourage you to take notes in your Bible and READ (Reflect, Examine, Apply, Do).

Acts 4

Mark 12:41-43

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

1 John 3:16-18