



I. INTRO

A. Jesus came to seek and save the lost

- Jesus with people who **were very religious but had no idea who God was.**

B. Jesus fulfilled the mission and handed it off to the church

Luke 24:44, 46-47 (NIV) He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” ... He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. **YOU ARE WITNESSES OF THESE THINGS.**

- It's going to start in Jerusalem and I want it to spread to ALL nations.
- Then we turn the page to the book of Acts.

C. The book of Acts

Acts 1:1 (NIV) In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach

- Acts is about what Jesus continues to do — but now through His church.

Acts 1:8 (NIV) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses (like Luke 24) in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

II. ACTS: THEN

A. The book of Acts is like a 30 year high-light reel

B. The book of acts gives us some amazing details

- Many miracles are recorded, cripples walking, demons cast out, prison doors opening, whole households baptized and thousands of people coming to Jesus.

C. The same yesterday, today and forever

- The Name of Jesus has the same power today it did then.

D. Snake bit

- Every one of these miraculous moments has one thing in common: Problems, trials, troubles, risk and snakes.
- If you want to see God move like that, you've got to be willing to step into the places where only God can show up.
- **John Maxwell: Miracles happen in miracle territory.**

III. WHICH CHURCH?

A. **Let's be like the church in Acts!**

- **Which one?**



- B. There were many churches mentioned in the book of Acts
 - There were at least 12 churches mentioned each with different strengths and weaknesses.
 - The point is: every church mattered and was important.
- C. The church at Jerusalem
 - It exploded on the scene—3,000 saved in one day, miracles, healings, bold preaching.
 - The “who’s who” of early Christianity were there — apostles, James, John, Peter, Mary.
 - They stayed in Jerusalem, it was comfortable and what they knew. But Jesus said “go into all the world.”
 - **Turning Point:**
 - Stephen’s stoning (Acts 7).
 - Persecution erupts → the church scatters (Acts 8:1).
 - Out of that scattering came something brand new: the church at Antioch.
- D. The Church at Antioch
 - Antioch was bustling, diverse, and strategic in the ancient world—

IV. THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH

- A. What can we learn from the church at Antioch that applies to us today?
 - **Diversity in Leadership (Acts 13:1).**
 - **Barrier-Breaking Church (Acts 11:20).**
 - **Outreach-Oriented (Acts 11:21).**
 - **Discipling Church (Acts 11:26).**
 - **Worshipping, Sending Church (Acts 13:1–3).**
- B. The Church is YOU
 - Acts now and next depends on us.
 - The church will continue.

Psalm 145:4 (New Life Version) Families of this time will praise Your works to the families-to-come. They will tell about Your powerful acts.

- Question: “*What’s your part in the story?*”

1 John 3:2 (NKJV) Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.