

LESSON 1: ACTS 1

READING ONE – ACTS CHAPTER 1:1-8

1. Luke says in Acts 1:3 that Jesus “showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days...” Skim the following chapters and pick out five appearances of Christ to His disciples after his resurrection: John 20 & 21; Luke 24.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

2. Why, in your opinion, was it important for the apostles and other early disciples to have “infallible proofs” of the resurrection?

3. Jesus tutored the apostles and early disciples for 40 days, a period often called “The Forty Day Ministry.” Without giving specifics---only general categories---what sorts of things might Jesus have instructed his followers about?

4. Read the scriptures about baptism of the Holy Ghost in the Scripture Reference List and answer the following questions:

A. Is baptism by the Holy Ghost something for every believer or is it a rare experience that only happens to prophets and other special people?

PERSONAL B. Have you ever experienced an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that was significant in your life? Explain.

5. In Acts 1:6 the disciples ask Jesus if He is now going to “restore the kingdom to Israel.” This question shows that they did not yet fully understand his mission to mankind. How did the expectations of the Jews regarding a Messiah differ from the Savior’s mission to all mankind?

READING TWO – ACTS CHAPTER 1: 8-12

6. Acts 1:8 provides a kind of mini-overview of the whole book of acts. After they received the Holy Ghost, where were they to bear their witness, and in what order?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

7. A. Why do you think the apostles needed the power of the Holy Ghost in order to be "witnesses unto Christ"?

B. How does the Holy Ghost enable us to bear witness of the Savior?

8. A. From what specific place does verse 12 say Jesus is "taken up from [the disciples] into heaven"?

B. What significance is given to this same spot in **D&C 133:19-20**? (*See scripture list*)

READING THREE –ACTS CHAPTER 1: 13-26

9. A. Who is listed in verse fourteen that seems to be included in the core leadership group of early saints?

B. What were they doing?

c. From verse fifteen, about how many church members overall were there at this time?

10. A. From **D&C 41:3** and **D&C 42:14** (*see scripture list*), why was it important for the disciples to spend considerable time in prayer?

B. What changes a routine prayer into the "prayer of faith" mentioned in D&C 42?

11. In verse 16, Peter begins his address to the gathered disciples about the need to fill the place of the fallen Judas Iscariot. He uses two rather obscure passages from Psalms as the grounds for this organizational change. (These verses are noted in footnote "b" of verse 16, and footnote "b" of verse 20. They are **Psalm 41:9** and **Psalm 109:8**. *See scripture list*)

According to **Luke 24: 44-48**, (*see scripture list*) how were Peter's eyes opened to all the prophetic references to Jesus Christ that are found in the Psalms and other Old Testament passages?

12. Who did the "vote" fall upon to take Judas' place and why was he qualified?

13. What was something new to you that you learned from this reading of Acts 1 and why do you think it is important?