

ACTS OF HEROISM

WHAT THEY DID

The apostles did AMAZING miracles.

- Acts 2
- Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:5)
- Jail break (Acts 5:19)
- Acts 5:12 The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people...people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. ¹⁶ Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.
- Acts 14:3 So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who confirmed the message of his grace by enabling them to perform signs and wonders.
- Paul raised Eutychus from the dead (Acts 20:8-12)

Lives were radically TRANSFORMED.

Acts 5:28 "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," [the high priest] said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of [Jesus]'s blood."

²⁹ Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings!"

Acts 5:41 The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.

Acts 9:19b-22 Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. ²⁰ At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. ²¹ All those who heard him were astonished and asked, "Isn't he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? ... Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews...by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

Acts 19:19 A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas [a silver coin worth a days wage (or about \$6,000,000)].

The followers of Christ SPREAD the MESSAGE everywhere!

Acts 1:8	Prediction of Spirit empowering to spread gospel	Acts 11:21	Great number believe
Acts 1:15	120 believers in Jerusalem	Acts 11:24-26	Paul taught great numbers
Acts 2:41	3,000 added in a day	Acts 12:24	Word spreads and multiplies
Acts 2:46-47	People saved daily	Acts 13:2-3	Missionaries sent from Antioch
Acts 4:4	Numbers grew to 5,000	Acts 13:49	Word of the Lord spread through region
Acts 4:33	Apostles teach with boldness	Acts 14:1	Great numbers believe in Iconium
Acts 5:14	More added to number	Acts 16:5	Churches grew daily
Acts 5:28	Filling Jerusalem with the gospel	Acts 17:6	Accused of causing trouble all over the world
Acts 6:7	Numbers multiplied greatly	Acts 19:10	All in Asia hear the Word
Acts 8:1	Non-apostles spread gospel	Acts 19:20	Word prevailed mightily
Acts 8:4	Those scattered spread gospel	Acts 19:26	Paul accused of converting large numbers
Acts 9:31	Church grew in numbers	Acts 26:20	Paul's pattern (See Acts 1:8 & 8:1)
Acts 11:19-26	Those scattered preach		

HOW THEY DID IT

The Key: POWER of the Spirit

Mark 5:2-4 When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him. ³ This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. ⁴ For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him.

Judges 15:14 As [Samson] approached Lehi, the Philistines came toward him shouting. The Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon him. The ropes on his arms became like charred flax, and the bindings dropped from his hands.

Acts 2:38-39 Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God.”

HOW WE CAN DO IT.

Join with the Spirit where he is at work.

The Spirit is at work in YOUR LIFE.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

The Spirit works through believers in the CHURCH BODY/FAMILY.

Acts 2:44-47 All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. ⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

The Spirit is at work in situations BIGGER than YOU.

The Spirit helps us SPEAK boldly.

Acts 4:32 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

The Spirit gives us WISDOM.

Acts 6:10 But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave [Stephen] as he spoke.

The Spirit LEADS us.

Acts 8:29 The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”