

## “VOICE OF PAUL-x-LUKE” SERIES

This series shows how the writings of the apostle Paul and his traveling-&-writing assistant Luke, all tie in together to construct “the basic frame of the entire New Testament” from 16 of its books. Under Paul’s unique influence, all these writings emphasize *God forging His People into a new kind of Followership whose “growth policy” involves embodying every kind of people & heritage.* It is within the framework of this people-building endeavor that (1) the Forgiving-&-Restoring Power of Jesus especially gets to be displayed, and where (2) its best participants are those whose lives have God’s Presence “pouring forth” within them.

### study #8: The “Waited-For Promise” is What to Move-Out On

— covering **Acts 1:1-8** —

**ACTION #1.** Read **Luke 1:1-4** and then also **Acts 1:1-8** and then discuss the following:

- Summarize in your own words what these 2 passages say; also, what sticks out to you
- Luke and Acts are obviously 2 books in the same volume! Who do you *think* “Theophilus” (literally, *God-loving*) is, or could be—an actual person, or a general name for all Christians, or what? (talk it out!)
- Based on little clues in this text, what kind of person do you think Luke, the writer, is?

**ACTION #2.** Did you know that in this book, the book of Acts, you can trace which of Paul’s “journeys” that the writer Luke went along with him on? (In the text at different places, Luke starts and stops using the word “us” or “we.”) Together as a group, read the summary at the top of our 30-week series and then discuss:

- what kinds of relationship, influence, or perspectives might **LUKE** and **PAUL** have shared together?
- which line or part of the summary above seems most interesting to you as we continue this series?

**ACTION #3.** Based on what we just read (specifically in **Acts 1:4-8**), what do the words “**wait**” and “**the promise**” and “**Holy Spirit**” and “**power**” and “**witnesses**” all have to do with each other? *Discuss in your group how these 5 words relate* (which is the most important?... the least important?... what happens if one is left out?)

**ACTION #4.** Notice in **Acts 1:8** that there are 3 geographical-areas which Jesus specifically refers to. (by the way, the whole book can be broken up into these 3 chapters of “growth” into these areas). Discuss in your group: *what are those 3 specific areas, and how might people’s moving beyond each area to the next pose some new and unique challenges?*

**ACTION #5.** Each person share briefly one final summary, personal take-away, “ah-ha!” insight, or new question or curiosity from today’s study.

**EXTRA... FOR THOSE MOTIVATED, DEVOTED, & WITH SOME SELF-COMMAND:**

**GOLD CHALLENGE** ...read ahead (& maybe journal about) for next study: **Acts 1:9-26**

**PENGUIN CHALLENGE** ... (=daily reading + cover full NT+Psalms during series): read **GC** plus **Matt. 21-24**