

AN ONLINE COURSE ON THE EARLY CHURCH

(Do at home and/or join a parish group)

The Acts of the Apostles (by St Luke) & Letters of St Paul

“IF THEY COULD SPEAK”



ST MARYS ON THE HILL PARISH
GLENGORMLEY

What's involved?

SEVEN WEEK COURSE: MON-FRI

WATCH THE VIDEO DAILY (10-15 mins)

READ THE SCRIPTURE PASSAGE(S)

(Optional) COME TO THE MEETING IN THE PASTORAL CENTRE
WEDNESDAY NIGHT 7PM

(First meeting Wednesday 15th April not 8th April Easter Week)

INTRODUCTION

When new adult Christians were baptised in the Early Church, the seven weeks after Easter – after their baptism – was a special time of deepening their faith. It was called a period of MYSTAGOGY, and it led up to the Feast of Pentecost. A special focus of this period involved coming to a deeper understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of the baptised and in the life of the Church.

The books of the bible that deal with the growth of the Early Church, under the power of the Holy Spirit, are

- (1) The Acts of the Apostles written by St Luke (who also wrote the Gospel)
- (2) The Letters of St Paul to the various Churches he helped establish.

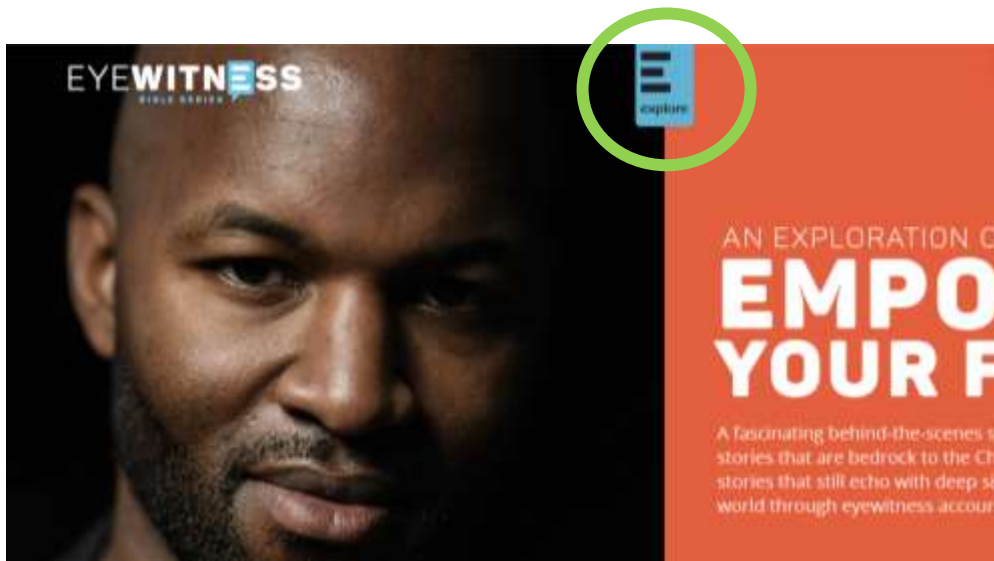
The parish is running a seven-week online course on the Acts of the Apostles and the Letters of Paul finishing on Friday 22nd May, before Pentecost Sunday 24th May 2026. It follows an online series called the EYEWITNESS BIBLE SERIES. This course can be accessed online – computer, laptop or smartphone – and involves watching a short video of about 10-15 mins in length in which an actor plays a biblical character from the Acts of the Apostles or one of St Paul's letters.

This dramatic form helps to bring the scriptures to life and shows the many varied men *and women* whose lives were transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit and who were involved in leadership in the Early Church. You can also read the relevant chapter(s) in the Acts or the letters. All of this can be done at home and if you miss one day you can always catch up the next day or at the weekend. The timetable overleaf sets out a schema that you can follow, or you can draw up one that suits you better. Don't feel that you have to cover everyone, do what you can.

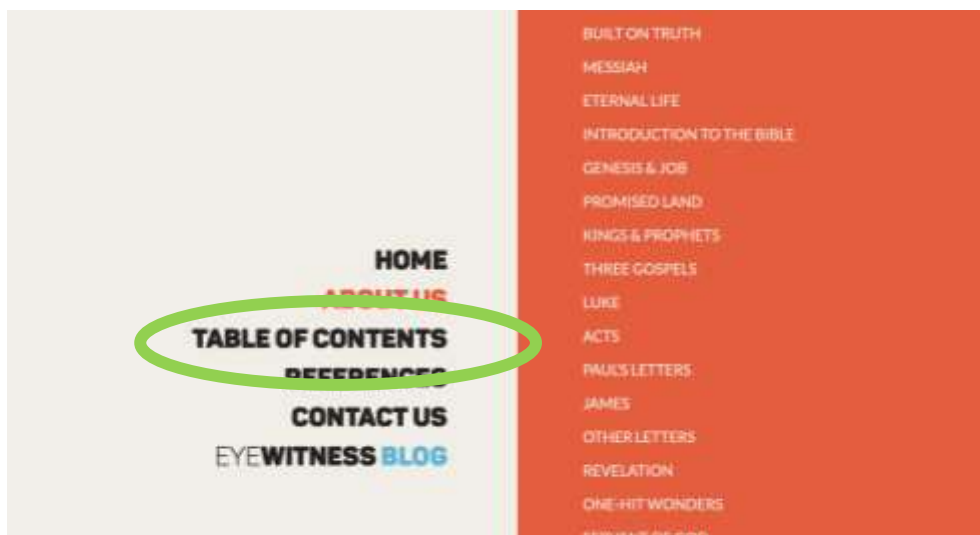
The course can be followed from home, however, you are welcome, if you can, to join a parish group meeting once a week in the Pastoral Centre on the Wednesday nights at 7pm (*first meeting Wed 15th April no meeting 8th April Easter Week*). This will simply be a 'question and answer' session, for about 1 hour, to help with any questions that may have arisen for you during the week. If you wish to join the group, please register by emailing the parish office or using the QR code on the back of this leaflet so that we know the numbers attending.

To access the course, go to the website eyewitnessbible.org and follow the STEPS outlined overleaf.

1. CLICK ON THE MENU



2. CLICK ON THE 'TABLE OF CONTENTS'



3. SCROLL DOWN TO ACTS AND START WITH LUKE

TITLE	TOPIC	VIDEO SCRIPTURES
Luke	Introduction to Luke	Acts 1
Paul	Pentecost, Peter	Acts 2-5, 10-12
Stephen	Stephen martyred	Act 2, 6
Philip	Deacons, Philip	Acts 8
Barnabas	Early church, Barnabas	Acts 9, 11, 12
John Mark	Mark's involvement	Acts 12-14
Holy Spirit	Holy Spirit in Acts	Acts 2
Paul	Paul's conversion	Acts 9, 11

SCHEMA

WATCH THE VIDEO (10-15 mins) / READ THE SCRIPTURE PASSAGE /
(Optional) COME TO THE MEETING

DATE 2026	BIBLICAL CHARACTER	THEME	SCRIPTURE
Week 1	ACTS OF THE APOSTLES		
Mon 6 Apr	Luke	An introduction	Acts 1
Tues 7 Apr	Peter	Pentecost	Acts 2-5, 10-12
Wed 8 Apr	Stephen (martyr)	Martyred	Act 2, 6
•	No Meeting Easter Week		
Thurs 9 Apr	Philip (deacon)	Preaching	Acts 8
Fri 10 Apr	Barnabas	Early Church	Acts 9, 11, 12
Week 2			
Mon 13 Apr	John Mark	Mark's involvement	Acts 12-14
Tues 14 Apr	Holy Spirit		Acts 2
Wed 15 Apr	Paul	Paul's conversion	Acts 8, 9, 11
•	<i>Meeting 7pm</i>	<i>Pastoral Centre</i>	
Thurs 16 Apr	Barnabas & Paul	1 st mission journey	Acts 13-14
Fri 17 Apr	James brother of the Lord	Council of Jerusalem	Acts 15
Week 3			
Mon 20 Apr	Caesarea Maritima	City by the Sea	Acts 9
Tues 21 Apr	Paul & Silas	2 nd mission journey	Acts 15-17
Wed 22 Apr	Paul in Athens	2 nd mission journey	Acts 17-18
•	<i>Meeting 7pm</i>	<i>Pastoral Centre</i>	
Thurs 23 Apr	Timothy	Timothy joins Paul	Acts 15-18
Fri 24 Apr	Prominent Women	Women in Acts	Acts 9, 16, 18
Week 4			
Mon 27 Apr	Luke, Timothy & Philip	3 rd mission journey	Acts 18-20
Tues 28 Apr	Paul's end	Paul goes to Rome	Acts 21-28
Wed 29 Apr	Theophilus	After the end of Acts	Acts 28
•	<i>Meeting 7pm</i>	<i>Pastoral Centre</i>	
	SCRIPTURE	BIBLICAL CHARACTER	SCRIPTURE
	PAUL'S LETTERS		
Thurs 30 Apr	Not Good News to all	Demeterius the Silversmith	Acts 17:1-8, Acts 19
Fri 1 May	Galatians 1-2	Eunice 2 Tim 1:5, 3:15	Galatians 1-2
Week 5			
Mon 4 May	Galatians 3-6	Lois 2 Tim 1:5, 3:15	Galatians 3-6
Tues 5 May	1 Thessalonians	Silas	1 Thessalonians
Wed 6 May	2 Thessalonians	Jason	2 Thessalonians
•	<i>Meeting 7pm</i>	<i>Pastoral Centre</i>	

Thurs 7 May	1 Corinthians 1-7	Aquila & Priscilla	1 Corinthians 1-7
Fri 8 May	1 Corinthians 8-16	Sosthenes	1 Corinthians 8-16
Week 6			
Mon 11 May	2 Corinthians	Titus	2 Corinthians
Tues 12 May	Romans 1-8	Tertius	Romans 1-8
Wed 13 May	Romans 9-16	Phoebe	Romans 9-16
•	<i>Meeting 7pm</i>	<i>Pastoral Centre</i>	
Thur 14 May	Ephesians	Tychicus	Ephesians
Fri 15 May	Colossians	Onesimus	Colossians
Week 7			
Mon 18 May	Philemon	Paul	Philemon
Tues 19 May	Philippians	Epaphroditus	Philippians
Wed 20 May	1 Timothy	Apollos	1 Timothy
•	<i>Meeting 7pm</i>	<i>Pastoral Centre</i>	
Thur 21 May	Titus	Elder from Crete	Titus
Fri 22 May	2 Timothy	Timothy	2 Timothy
Sun 24 May Pentecost Sunday			

PAUL'S THREE MISSIONARY JOURNEYS

1.



Red – outward journey

Blue – journey back

2.



From Antioch in Syria the journey is a full circle back to Antioch via Jerusalem

3.



Red – outward journey

Blue – journey back

Paul is arrested in the Temple in Jerusalem

Timeline of Paul's Missionary Journeys

- **A.D. 37:** Converted on the road to Damascus.
- **A.D. 37-40:** Spends three years in Arabia.
- **A.D. 40:** Brief visit to Jerusalem to meet with the apostle Peter.
- **A.D. 40-44:** Preaches and ministers in Tarsus and surrounding regions.
- **A.D. 44 or 45:** Relocates to Antioch in Syria.
- **A.D. 45 or 46:** Travels with Barnabas to visit Jerusalem, brings a famine relief offering.
- **A.D. 46 or 47:** First missionary journey with Barnabas, likely lasts 1-2 years.
- **A.D. 50:** Attends the Jerusalem Council.
- **A.D. 51:** Leaves on second missionary journey, trip lasts 2.5 to 3 years, including 18 months in Corinth.
- **A.D. 54:** Leaves on third missionary journey, trip lasts more than 4 years, including 3 years in Ephesus.
- **A.D. 58:** Arrested in Jerusalem, put on trial before the Roman governor Felix.
- **A.D. 58-60:** Held in Caesarea for two years.
- **A.D. 60:** Put back on trial by Festus the new Roman governor; eventually transported to Rome.
- **A.D. 61:** Arrives in Rome.
- **A.D. 61-63:** Placed under house arrest for two years.
- **A.D. 63:** Released from house arrest.
- **A.D. 66 or 67:** Imprisoned in Rome again.
- **A.D. 67 or 68:** Martyred under Nero's persecution.

To register for the Wednesday Meetings 7pm

Email the parish office

– stmarysoth@downandconnor.org

Or

Use the QR code

