

# **CHURCH PLANTING IN ACTS**

From Ed Stezer, *Planting New Churches in a Postmodern Age*, 43-45.

## **1.0 THE MISSION CARRIED OUT IN JERUSALEM: Acts 1:12-6:7**

### **1.1 Its Origin**

- 1.1.1 Born in Prayer (1:12-14)
- 1.1.2 Bathed in the Spirit (2:1-4)
- 1.1.3 Begun with proclamation (2:14-39)
- 1.1.4 Baptized in the name of Jesus (2:41)

### **1.2 Its Function**

- 1.2.1 Doctrinal Teaching (2:42)
- 1.2.2 Fellowship (2:42)
- 1.2.3 Corporate Worship (2:42, 46)
- 1.2.4 Prayer (2:42; 4:29-31)
- 1.2.5 Benevolence (2:44-45; 4:34-35)
- 1.2.6 Identification with the community (2:47)
- 1.2.7 Witness (4:33; 5:42)

### **1.3 Its Growth**

- 1.3.1 Three thousand baptized at Pentecost (2:41)
- 1.3.2 People saved daily (2:47)
- 1.3.3 Two thousand saved on Solomon's Portico (4:4)
- 1.3.4 Multitudes added (5:14)
- 1.3.5 Priests believe (6:7)

### **1.4 Its Organization**

- 1.4.1 Apostles (6:2)
- 1.4.2 Deacons (6:3)
- 1.4.3 Congregation (6:5)
- 1.4.4 Elders (15:6, 22)

## **2.0 THE MISSION CARRIED OUT IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA: Acts 6:8 – 12:24 (cf. 9:31)**

- 2.1 Church planting done by laity (8:1, 4)
- 2.2 Mass evangelism (8:5-6, 12)
- 2.3 Village evangelism (8:25)
- 2.4 Churches multiplied (9:31)
- 2.5 Growth enhanced by miracles (9:35-42)
- 2.6 Salvation extended to Gentiles (10:44-48)

## **3.0 THE MISSION CARRIED OUT TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH: Acts 12:24 – 28:31 (cf. 19:20)**

- 3.1 Scattered laity started Jewish churches (11:19)
- 3.2 Christians from Jerusalem plant Gentile-Jewish church in Antioch (11:20-21)

- 3.3 **Antioch became the great missionary church (13:2-3)**
- 3.4 **Paul's First Missionary Journey (13-14)**
  - 3.4.1 Preached first in synagogues (13:5; 14:1)
  - 3.4.2 Shifted to the Gentiles (13:46)
  - 3.4.3 Moved from city to city (13:13-14)
  - 3.4.4 Appointed elders to lead the churches (14:23)
  - 3.4.5 Returned to check on the new churches (14:21)
- 3.5 **Paul's Second Missionary Journey (15:40 – 18:22)**
  - 3.5.1 Employed a team ministry (15:40)
  - 3.5.2 Returned to visit new churches (15:41)
  - 3.5.3 Guided by the Holy Spirit (16:9-10)
  - 3.5.4 Evangelized households (16:15, 33)
  - 3.5.5 Taught in the marketplace (17:17)
  - 3.5.6 Contextualized the message (17:22-23)
  - 3.5.7 Emphasized responsive peoples (18:6)
- 3.6 **Paul's Third Missionary Journey (18:23-21:17)**
  - 3.6.1 Returned to visit the churches (18:23)
  - 3.6.2 Established mother churches in urban areas (19:10; 1 Thess. 1:8)
  - 3.6.3 Started house churches (20:20)
  - 3.6.4 Encouraged stewardship in new churches (1 Cor. 16:1-3)

#### 4.7 **The Gospel Reaches Rome**

“He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance” (Acts 28:30-31).