**Acts to Revelation**

The Word of the First Christians

**Session 1 – The Gospel Shared at Pentecost**

**Session Summery** – The Apostles remained in Jerusalem after the remarkable events surrounding the resurrection and ascension of Jesus. On Pentecost, the Apostles experienced something truly special, when the Holy Spirit empowered them to start sharing the Gospel. After Peter’s first sermon, the church was launched in dramatic fashion when 3,000 Jews became followers of Jesus. There first followers were known as “The Way,” a movement that began spreading in homes throughout Jerusalem. Boldly, the Apostles went to the Temple grounds each day to preach the Good News of Jesus.

Jesus’ final words to His Apostles, *“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* – Acts 1:8

According to most scholars, Luke wrote Acts as a continuation of his Gospel, presenting the case for Jesus and His early followers. Luke wrote his two-volume set as a careful record of history – what he calls, “an orderly account.” Not only did Luke write an orderly account, he has passed the test of a true historian on multiple occasion. One of the greatest archeologists of all times, Sir William Ramsay, said, “Luke is a historian of the first rank; not merely are his statements of fact trustworthy, he is possessed of the true historic sense… in short, this author should be placed along with greatest of historians.”

**Scripture Reading** – Acts 1 & 2

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Who wrote the Book of Acts? Give two reasons why we can trust the historical accuracy of this book?
2. Who replaced Judas Iscariot as the 12th Apostle?
3. Describe what happened in the Upper Room on Pentecost.
4. How many people became followers of Jesus after Peter’s sermon at Pentecost?
5. Why was the religious movement known as “The Way”?

**Scripture Reading for next week: Acts 1-7**