



## Sunday January 10<sup>th</sup> – Acts 1:1-5

*Opening Prayer: Father, as we begin this study in Acts give us insight and wisdom to understand the meaning of each passage. As our understanding increases give us the courage and boldness to live out the gospel message to the world around us.*

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Read Acts 1:1-5

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1) The number forty occurs many times in scripture – forty days of the flood, the Israelites wandered for forty years in the desert, Jesus was forty days in the wilderness and here in Acts 1 we see that Jesus was forty days with the disciples following His resurrection.

A period of forty years or days in the bible represents a time of transition. The period preceding the 'forty' has ended and the period that is to come is pending.

What are the preceding and pending periods in:

- 1) The exodus (slavery – freedom)
- 2) The flood (sinfulness and corruption – a new start)
- 3) The post resurrection period (The announcement of the good news – the coming of the Holy Spirit and the spread of the gospel)

2) Reflect upon the teaching of this past Sunday. Recall what points were made. What is their significance? How are we to apply these truths in our everyday lives?

3) Read: Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33

What is the 'baptism of the Holy Spirit? Why is it mentioned in all four gospels and in Acts 1:5?

4) What then is the pending period in Acts?

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Check in with each other. Pray for each other.