



**Reading Luke  
Together:**

**Hearing**



## Bible Study of the Book of Acts

Acts is a comprehensive history of the church from its founding through the first few decades.

**Wednesdays**  
**March 2-May 25**  
**7:00-8:00pm**

Sierra Madre Church of Christ  
212 N Lima St  
Sierra Madre, CA 91024

**[sierramadrechurch.org](http://sierramadrechurch.org)**  
**626-355-1817**

There will be opportunity for questions and comments along with Dr. Scott's lectures. An online link will be on our website.



**Dr. Jack Scott**

### Education

B.A. in Bible from  
Abilene Christian  
College

M.Div. from Yale  
University

Ph.D. in History  
from Claremont  
Graduate  
University

### Public Service

President of  
Pasadena City  
College (1987-95)

CA State  
Assemblyman  
(1996-2000)

CA State Senator  
(2000-08)

**Community Challenge:**

**Read 2 chapters a day of Luke-Acts.**

**Pray for the upcoming class on Acts.**

# Review

**As a narrative, the gospel can utilize good storytelling techniques that invite the reader to participate—**

**Movement – Journey of becoming/  
discovery**

**Tension – Obstacles we face/are**

**Characters – Recognize ourselves  
or aspire to imitate**

## Review

**Consistent themes hold the story together as a coherent whole and direct the reader to the author's/editor's intentions—**

**Holy Spirit – Drives the story**

**Prayer – Context of anticipation**

**Proclamation – Promises and fulfillment**

**People on the fringe – Poor, women, sick, sinners, Gentiles**

# Parables

**Stories of self-examination and a testing of discipleship**

**Conventional setting**

**Twist or exaggeration**

**Function – What does it do?**

## **Rising tension with the Jews**

**At the beginning, there is a sincere effort to fit into Jewish tradition.**

**They are angered by Jesus' mission and the people he serves.**

**They are ensnared by their greed and power.**

**The disciples' greatest danger is becoming like them.**

# **Restoration of the Jewish heritage**

**Identifying kingdom Jews**

**Fulfillment of Scripture**

**Usefulness of Jerusalem and the  
temple**

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**Share your hypothesis on what you see happening, and listen to others' affirmation/challenges.**

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**Studied comparisons/contrasts  
between uses**

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**The right heart or wrong heart can be found in surprising people.**

**The good heart is evidenced by repentance and perseverance.**

**The evil one is seen by arrogance and self-righteousness.**

**18 Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they think they have will be taken from them.**

**—Luke 8:18**

# **Challenges to my understanding—**

**You can't judge a book by its cover, or can you?**

**How does one strive for a good heart, or is that even possible?**

**How do passivity and activity figure into hearing?**