

UNITED WORSHIP, PRAYER, & REPENTANCE

10-DAY PRAYER GUIDE: Reliving Acts Today

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10DAYS [2021]

Prayer Guide: Reliving Acts Today

Welcome! Unite with us as we worship, pray, and repent for the next ten days! What is our focus?

10 prayers out of the book of Acts tell an inspiring story of how God acts: **God's People Pray**→ **God's People Listen & Obey** → **God Moves**, leading to more of God's people praying, listening, obeying and 'God moving' - a continual flow! During these 10 Days of Prayer, 10 'Acting' Prayers seek to **Relive Acts Today** - trusting our city will never be the same!

But are we truly longing for His Acts Today?

10 Days of Prayer was birthed out of the concept of mourning, or longing. Although this word may sound kind of negative, we are not talking about a mourning just to be 'miserable', but a mourning based on the Promise that God has so much more available for us! He invites us to evaluate our situation, realize what is missing, and in the broken condition of our lives, families, communities, and nation long, weep and cry out for His Return. Could God be telling His church today: 'My people will mourn before my Return'? Are you mourning to see His Acts Relived today?

This prayer guide is designed to guide you in that mourning. You will find your one-sentence 'Acting Prayer' with Acts Scripture reference at the top of each page. After reading the passage from Acts, start your prayer with **ADORATION**, aligning yourself with the Source of Hope for our city. Then **REPENT** by turning from anything that stands in the way of receiving His Full Promise, followed by **INTERCESSION** for His will to be done. Use the thought in **MEDITATION** and the **RESOURCE** to further stir your heart in seeking His Face.

The 10 'Acting' Prayers can be categorized in the following three categories:

A. 3 Prayers for the Health of the Church

- Day 1 May we be filled with the Spirit's **POWER** (in our vertical relationship).
- Day 2 May we experience true **COMMUNITY** (in horizontal relationships).
- Day 3 May we share Christ in **BOLDNESS** (in our relationship to our world).

B. 4 Pravers for the Mission of the Church

- **Day 4** May we be **HOLISTIC**, bringing solutions to body and soul.
- Day 5 May we be **GRACIOUS**, bringing love where there is hatred.
- Day 6 May we be **RECONCILERS**, bringing reconciliation where there is division.
- Day 7 May we be LIFE-GIVING, bringing Life where there is hopelessness.

C. 3 Prayers for the Future of the Church

- Day 8 May a continual **AWE** of Him be our motivation.
- Day 9 May sacrificial **MULTIPLICATION** send us on mission everywhere.
- Day 10 May His **SALVATION** be heard, reaching every person.

For a further text analysis of the cycle for each prayer in Acts, see the diagram on the next page.



Scripture [Analysis] **Prayer Guide:** Reliving Acts Today

	ACTS	Theme	His People Pray	Listen & Obey	God Moves	We Pray
1	1:4-14, 2:1-13, 37-41	POWER	They devoted themselves to prayer'.	They waited as instructed 'for the promise of the Father'.	They were 'filled with the Holy Spirit'; church grew: 'three thousand souls were added'.	May we be filled with the Spirit's POWER.
2	2:42-47	COMMUNITY	They 'devoted themselves to prayer' in daily Fellowship.	They obeyed Christ's command to love when they 'had all things in common'.	This sharing of goods and lives witnessed to the world as 'the Lord added'.	May we experience true COMMUNITY.
3	4:13, 23–31	BOLDNESS	Facing opposition, they pray: 'grant' us 'to speak Your word with all boldness'.	They called on God quoting battle theme of Psalm 2 for their context.	He shakes the place & fills His church to 'continue to speak the word of God with boldness'.	May we share Christ in BOLDNESS.
4	6:1-7	HOLISTIC	For physical needs deacons were chosen. They 'prayed and laid hands on them'.	Ministering in word and deed, 'the word of God continued to increase'.	Skeptical leaders join the church - 'and a great many priests became obedient to the faith'.	May we be HOLISTIC, serving in word and deed.
5	7:54-59	MERCIFUL	Stephen 'gazed into heaven' and saw 'the heavens opened'.	Stephen, 'full of the Holy Spirit', forgave: 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them'.	As 'they were all scattered', mercy filled people spread Mercy everywhere.	May we be MERCIFUL, forgiving those that hurt us.
6	9:36-43	LIFE-GIVING	Peter 'put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed'.	Peter boldly spoke life in a death filled situation; 'turning to the body he said "Tabitha arise".	God answered - 'and she opened her eyes' and 'it became known throughout Joppa and many believed'.	May we be LIFE-GIVING, bringing Life where there is Death.
7	10:1-34	RECONCILE	Both Cornelius and Peter prayed regularly - 'Peter went up about the sixth hour to pray'.	Peter was 'shown' to'not call any person unclean', so 'when I was sent for, I came'.	'The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles'. They were 'baptized' and fully included.	May we be RECONCILERS to all peoples.
8	12:1-17	SURRENDER	After Peter was jailed 'earnest prayer for him was made'.	Instruction to Peter to 'follow' an angel and to the church to open the door 'when he knocked'.	Believers grew in awe of God; from: 'you are out of your mind', to: 'they were amazed'.	May we completely SURRENDER to Him.
9	13:1-3	SENT	The church was 'worshiping the Lord and fasting'.	The church obeys to set apart for me Barnabas and Saul'.	'They went down to Seleucia', reaching many new places.	May He send us on mission everywhere.
10	16:25-34	SALVATION	Chained in prison, Paul was 'praying and singing hymns'.	Instead of escaping jailor is told: 'don't harm yourself, we are all here'.	Jailor's salvation: "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"	May SALVATION reach all men.





We Pray: May we be filled with the Spirit's POWER!

Key Scripture: Acts 1:4-15, 2:1-13, 37-41

<u>ADORATION //</u> You are a God who EMPOWERS!

"Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts." – Zechariah 4:6

"Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to Your name goes all the glory for Your unfailing love and faithfulness. O Israel, trust the LORD! He is your helper and your shield." - Psalms 115:1,9

"As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." - John 14:4, 5

REPENTANCE //

"For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked." - Rev 3:17

Lord, just like the church in Laodicea we think we have it all together. We have more books, fancy services, speakers than ever before in the history of the church, but we are so lacking! We confess all our 'stuff' is worthless compared to your Powerful Presence. Forgive us for our self-sufficient Christianity that ignores the need of the reality of You!

"In the last days people will be having the appearance of godliness but denying its power. Avoid such people." - 2 Timothy 3:1-2,5

 Lord, forgive us for claiming that we know You by trying to put on a good show on the outside. We confess our hearts are broken. We need Your Healing Power on the inside!

INTERCESSION //

"He ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father." – Acts 1:4

 Lord, the 10 Day vision is to 'Stop the city to welcome the King'. On the first day, I long to have You start this work in me first! I stop to wait for you. Return me to my first love. Without You I am nothing.

MEDITATION //

 Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal where you may have run ahead of the Lord, doing things in your own strength, and where you need a waiting, dependent heart to be filled with His Power.

RESOURCE //

■ The call for the Spirit in the Welsh Revival: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBAoELj8A6s





We Pray: May we experience true COMMUNITY.

Key Scripture: Acts 2:42-47

ADORATION // You are a God who creates COMMUNITY!

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore." – Psalm 133:1,3

"For where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I among them." – Matthew 18:20

"You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." – 1 Peter 2:9

REPENTANCE //

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." – Ephesians 4:3 (NIV)

Lord, forgive us for our complacency when it comes to unity. We have allowed criticism, pride, and gossip to exist and have not been broken by what breaks Your heart: our lack of

"By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." – John 13:34

Lord, we repent of our hoarding and materialism. We trust more in our money than in You and have a hard time letting it go. We have not followed Your Sacrificial Love.

INTERCESSION //

"And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need." – Acts 2:44,45

Lord, in this season where racial tension makes world headlines, make us a people who radically love You and each other. Cause the world to envy this kind of love. Rid us of greed, self-centeredness, and fear of community. Fill us with Your love.

MEDITATION //

How close do you think we are to experiencing the kind of sacrificial radical community we read about in Acts? What hinders us from experiencing it?

RESOURCE //

Wilberforce's 'circle of friends' changed history: https://www.cslewisinstitute.org/webfm_send/471



We Pray: May we share Christ in BOLDNESS!

Key Scripture: Acts 4:1-13, 23-31

ADORATION // You are the **ANSWER** to a world in need!

"That Your way may be known on earth. Your saving power among all nations. Let all the peoples praise You, O God." - Psalm 67: 2,3

"Worthy are You, for You were slain and by Your blood You ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation." – Revelation 5:10

"For God did not send His son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him." – John 3:17

REPENTANCE //

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." - Acts 4:12

Lord, forgive us for our lack of conviction that in Your Perfect Sacrifice on Calvary lies the only true and lasting cure for a sick world. Fear of men has stopped us from boldly sharing Your Saving Glory, hereby depriving a hurting world of her opportunity to meet her Healer.

"Everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father, but whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before my Father." – Matthew 10:32,33

Lord, forgive us for fearing rejection, replacing Your acceptance for men's acceptance.

INTERCESSION //

"When they saw the boldness of Peter...they recognized they had been with Jesus." – Acts 4:13

"The Lord said to me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten you. Ask of Me and I will make the nations your heritage." - Psalm 2:7-9

Lord, return us to our first love for You. Consume us with a revived wonder of Your Perfect and Complete Salvation for this world, propelling us to unashamedly share it with all.

MEDITATION //

This prayer for boldness happened during intense persecution. When under pressure, do you run and hide from conflict, or do you cry out to God to make you even more bold?

RESOURCE //

Music: Newsboys - 'We Believe': https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjZ01FcK0yk



We Pray: May we be HOLISTIC, serving in word and deed.

Key Scripture: Acts 6:1-7

<u>ADORATION //</u> You are COMPLETE, ruling over spirit, soul, and body.

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is One." - Deuteronomy 6:4

"The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein." – Psalm 24:1

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." - Luke 4:18-19

REPENTANCE //

"And he answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."" – Luke 10:27

Lord, you tell us to both love You and our neighbor. Forgive us for ignoring or elevating one part of Your Commandment over the other.

"What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? So also, faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." - James 2:14,17

Lord, forgive us for having a faith that may be filled with lots of beautiful words and knowledge, but is without love and good deeds.

INTERCESSION //

"Pick out from among you seven men of good repute, whom we will appoint to this duty." – Acts 6:4

Lord, just as the disciples, may we sacrificially invest our resources in both teaching Your Word and meeting physical needs, without ever neglecting one for the other.

MEDITATION //

When Jesus says: 'My peace I leave with you', he uses the Hebrew word 'Shalom', which means universal flourishing, wholeness, and delight. It describes the way things ought to be. Use the resource link below that talks about the historical role of the church's response to pandemics to reflect on your role as an usher of Shalom in your community.

RESOURCE //

Christians' Response to Pandemics: https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/4-lessons-church-history/





Prayer Guide: Reliving Acts Today

We Pray: May we be MERCIFUL, forgiving those that hurt us.

Key Scripture: Acts 7:54-59

ADORATION // You are a God who is MERCIFUL!

"The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin." – Exodus 34:6-7

"Praise the Lord! Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!" – Psalm 106:1

"And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD, 'For He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever toward Israel.' And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the LORD." – Ezra 3:11

REPENTANCE //

"If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." – Mark 5:23-24

 Lord, show me if there is anyone that holds a grudge against me. Lead me to be reconciled with that person.

"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful." – Luke 6:27-28,36

• Lord, show me also if there is anyone whom I have called an enemy, shunned, or felt anger towards, instead of being a channel of Your Unconditional Mercy.

INTERCESSION //

"Stephen cried out with a loud voice 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them."" – Acts 7:60

 Lord, may Your Forgiveness flow in us, through us and to the world around us as a witness of your great love (Acts 8:3).

MEDITATION //

Stephen saw Jesus (Acts 7:55-56) turning him into a first-class forgiver. What is your version of Jesus? Has His Love permeated your heart fully or might any unforgiveness of yourself or others be a sign you need a greater view of His Merciful Face?

RESOURCE //

Steve Saint forgave dad's murderer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6AnomA1dyQI





Prayer Guide: Reliving Acts Today

We Pray: May we be LIFE-GIVING, speaking life where there is death.

Key Scripture: Acts 9:36-43

ADORATION // You are a God who brings **LIFE**!

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live." – John11:25

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." – John 10:10

"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." – Isaiah 43:19

REPENTANCE //

"We are the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life." – 2 Corinthians 2:15-16

 Lord, forgive us when we have not spoken life in situations where we knew it would cause trouble. We repent and delight in Your Call to always be fragrance bearers of You.

"Honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect." – 1 Peter 3:15

 Lord, forgive us when we have shared You in a disrespectful or condescending way with others, creating barriers instead of opportunities to introduce them to You.

INTERCESSION //

"But Peter, turning to the body said: 'Tabitha, arise.' And she opened her eyes." – Acts 9:40

Lord, You are the only Hope of this World. May we not miss any opportunity to introduce You as the Life Giver in desperate situations, leading people to the Hope found in You.

MEDITATION //

Peter quiets the room, called on God's Name and spoke the Promise of Life. What specific areas in your own life and community could you speak life into? Have you been silenced?

RESOURCE //

Music: 'Speak Life' by Toby Mac: <u>TobyMac - Speak Life (Lyrics) - YouTube</u>



We Pray: May we be RECONCILERS to all peoples.

Key Scripture: Acts 10:1-34

ADORATION // You are a God who **RECONCILES**!

"For He Himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of hostility... that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility." – Ephesians 2:14-16

"I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and the Lamb and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" – Revelation 7:9-10

"I ask…that they may all be one, just as You, Father, are in me, and I in You, that they also may be in Us." - John 17:20-21

REPENTANCE //

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." - Galatians 3:28

Lord, forgive us for valuing others based on looks, race or status, hereby trampling on the perfect value You already placed on us when You bought us with the high price of Your blood.

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the peace." – Romans 15:13

Lord, forgive us for not fighting for this unity with all our might. We have allowed our differences to divide us, instead of being stirred by them to tap deeper in the Ocean of Your Mercy.

INTERCESSION //

"But God has shown me that I should no longer think of anyone as impure or unclean." – Acts 10:28

Lord, teach us to embrace each other, especially people that look different from us or with whom we disagree. May Your Unifying Grace lead us to honor each other in Christ.

MEDITATION //

Peter was called to embrace what he disliked or considered inferior because God made all. In our racial, theological, and politically divided world, where do you see superiority, inferiority, dislike or misunderstanding turn that embrace into fear, uncomfortableness or animosity?

RESOURCE //

For group discussions: 'Multiethnic Conversations' Mark DeYmaz & Oneya Fennel Okuwobi



We Pray: May we be completely SURRENDERED to Him.

Key Scripture: Acts 12:1-17

ADORATION // You are a SOVEREIGN God!

"O Lord our God, other lords besides You have ruled over us, but Your name alone we bring to remembrance." Isaiah 26:13

"Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand." – Proverbs19:21

"How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it is here a little while, then it's gone. What you ought to say is, 'If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that."" - James 4:14-15

REPENTANCE //

"Herod killed James the brother of John with the sword, and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also." - Acts 12:2-3

Lord, we love to read and hear about revivals, but forgive us for not being willing to pay the price of personal sacrifice and persecution that comes with following you.

"The angel said to him: 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.'" – Acts 12:8

Lord, we love to see you do mighty acts in our world but forgive us for being unwilling to surrender to you in all areas of our lives, so you can have your way and move through us.

INTERCESSION //

"Peter continued knocking, and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed." – Acts 12:16

"Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone opens the door, I will come in." – Revelations 3:20

"Lord, come in!", may You no longer be the outsider knocking at our door, but be the insider, ruling our heart.

MEDITATION //

Isn't it ironic that when God gave the exact answer they had been asking for, the disciples were convincing each other they were out of their mind to expect God to move in this way?

10

How does the disciples' story change your surrender to God in how He moves?

RESOURCE //

Music: Elevation Worship 'Do it Again': https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0B InQIITxU





We Pray: May He SEND us on mission everywhere.

Key Scripture: Acts 13:1-3

ADORATION // You are a God who SENDS!

"I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the temple. And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?'" – Isaiah 6:1,8

"The disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them, 'As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." - John 20:21

"The LORD said to Joshua: 'Arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses." – Joshua 1:1-3

REPENTANCE //

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." - Matthew 9:37-38

Lord, forgive us for ignoring the vastness of Your Harvest. We have been self-serving in using Your Resources, especially Your People. Forgive me for not going out.

"He gave shepherds to equip the saints for the work of ministry." – Ephesians 4:11-12

Lord, forgive us for avoiding Your call by expecting 'professionals' to do the work for us, instead of discovering and exercising Your Unique Call for my life.

INTERCESSION //

"While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." - Acts 13:2

Lord, may our church be a place where we 'set others apart' by encouraging their gifts and callings instead of 'putting others down' through our criticism.

MEDITATION //

 Barnabas and Saul were set apart not just for work, but to be with God in the first place – 'for Me'. In our performance driven culture, how does this passage challenge any work for Him?

RESOURCE //

The Moravians provide us with an inspiring example of prayer, presence and being sent. Read: http://www.thetravelingteam.org/articles/count-zinzendorf-the-moravians-prayermakes-history





Prayer Guide: Reliving Acts Today

We Pray: May SALVATION reach all men.

Key Scripture: Acts 16:25-34

ADORATION // You are a God who SAVES!

"There is no other god besides Me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides Me. Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth!" – Isaiah 45:21-22

"God our Savior desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." – 1 Timothy 2:4-5

"Behold, a great multitude that no one could number, crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" – Rev 5:9-10

REPENTANCE //

"Should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left?" – Jonah 4:11

Lord, forgive us for not weeping over the lost, but instead seeking You to only comfort us.

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." – Matthew 5:16

> Lord, forgive us for being so consumed with ourselves that we forget that everything we say and do has the purpose to show You to others. Make us aware of the needs around us.

INTERCESSION //

"Trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas and said, 'What must I do to be saved?'"

– Acts 16:30

 Lord, may the world flee to Your Church in awe of Your Salvation as they see Christ as the only genuine answer.

MEDITATION //

• A (1) Proclamation (v.25), (2) Power (v.26) and (3) Practice (v.27-28) preceded the jailor's salvation. In sharing Christ at the end of 10 days, how can you experience the same three?

RESOURCE //

William Booth's vision: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzGLWy7b9yQ

