

Summary

Pastor Kevin introduces a year-long study through the Book of Acts, comparing the Holy Spirit to a 'wild goose' - relentless, unpredictable, and untamable. He challenges the congregation to consider where they might be resisting God's Spirit and emphasizes that Acts shows us Jesus continued through the early church. The sermon establishes that Luke wrote Acts as a sequel to his Gospel, documenting how a small group of disciples became a world-changing movement through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The pastor outlines four key reasons to study Acts: it takes us across boundaries, pushes us outside our comfort zones, helps us think rightly about the church, and shows us Jesus continued. He warns against 'counterfeit Christianity' that requires no dependence on the Holy Spirit, instead calling for authentic faith marked by risk, boldness, and surrender to God's leading.

Intro Prayer

Father, as we gather together today, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us through Your Word. Help us to be receptive to the work of Your Holy Spirit in our lives. We pray that You would remove any resistance or barriers that might prevent us from fully receiving what You have for us in this time together. Give us ears to hear and hearts that are willing to be transformed by Your truth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's the most adventurous or spontaneous thing you've ever done? Did it turn out better or worse than you expected?

Key Verses

1. Acts 1:1-3
2. Acts 1:8
3. Luke 24:36-53
4. John 14:16
5. John 14:26
6. Matthew 16:18

Questions

1. Pastor Kevin asked, 'Is there anywhere I am knowingly or unknowingly resisting the Spirit of God?' How would you honestly answer that question in your own life?

2. The sermon described the Holy Spirit as a 'wild goose' - relentless, unpredictable, and untamable. How does this image challenge or change your understanding of the Holy Spirit?
3. What does it mean to you that Acts is 'Jesus continued' rather than just a historical account of the early church?
4. The pastor mentioned that our growth zone is always outside our comfort zone. What's one area where God might be calling you to step outside your comfort zone?
5. How do you distinguish between authentic Christianity and what the pastor called 'counterfeit Christianity' that requires no dependence on the Holy Spirit?
6. Jesus told the disciples to 'wait' for power from on high before beginning their mission. Why do you think waiting was so important, and how does this apply to our lives today?
7. The sermon emphasized that the church belongs to Jesus, not to us. How should this truth impact the way we think about and participate in church life?
8. Theophilus financed Luke's documentation of the early church movement. What might God be calling you to invest in or support for His kingdom purposes?

Life Application

This week, identify one specific area where you sense God's Spirit leading you outside your comfort zone. It might be having a difficult conversation, serving in a new way, or taking a step of faith in your relationships or calling. Commit to taking one concrete action in that area, and ask God to fill you with His Spirit's power and presence as you step forward in obedience.

Key Takeaways

1. The Holy Spirit is like a 'wild goose' - relentless, unpredictable, and untamable, leading us on adventures of faith
2. Acts shows us 'Jesus continued' - demonstrating that Jesus is still actively working through His church today
3. Our growth zone is always outside our comfort zone, and God calls us to step beyond safety into Spirit-led adventure
4. The church belongs to Jesus and is His plan A for reaching the world - there is no plan B
5. Authentic Christianity requires dependence on the Holy Spirit, not just moral guidelines or doctrinal beliefs

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for the reminder that You are still actively working in and through Your church today. We surrender our lives to You and ask that You would fill us with Your Holy Spirit. Help us to follow You wherever You lead, even when it takes us outside our comfort zones. Give us courage to say yes to Your calling and faith to trust You in the adventure ahead. May we be people who host Your presence and welcome Your Spirit's work in our lives. Build Your church in us and through us for Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.