

Turning the World Upside Down

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Grow Through the Bible: April 16-June 3, 2023

Two thousand years ago, a community of people emerged who were able to see life clearly. They began living and teaching a way others could not understand. Their critics claimed they were "turning the world upside down." This community is still around today. It is called the church. Perhaps turning the world upside down is the only way to learn to live right side up. Our reading plan from April 16 - June 3 takes us through the book of Acts as we witness the early church turning the world upside down.

Week of April 16	Uncommon Vision <i>Our readings this week focus on the beginning of the early church in Acts 1-3. Revealed are the characteristics and values that underlie this new body--teaching of the apostles, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayer, mutual care, and goodwill of all.</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
○ Acts 1	○ Joel 2	○ Acts 2:1-41	○ Acts 2:42-47, Ephesians 4:1-6	○ Acts 3, Deut 18:15-19	○ Psalm 110
Week of April 23	The Power of Words <i>The early church experienced persecution yet they held firm by speaking with boldness about what they had heard and seen. We continue reading the book of Acts.</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
○ Acts 4	○ Acts 5	○ Acts 6	○ Acts 7	○ Acts 8	○ Psalm 2
Week of April 30	When Our Comfort Zone Becomes Our Danger Zone <i>Our readings this week focus on Paul's conversion, including Ananais' stepping outside his comfort zone and related writings of Paul.</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
○ Acts 9:1-19a	○ Acts 9:19b-31	○ Galatians 1:11-24	○ Philippians 3:1-11	○ Acts 9:32-43	○ Psalm 25

Week of May 7	Even Them <i>The good news of Jesus Christ begins to be shared with Gentiles through the Holy Spirit's intervention. Then Paul's missionary journeys start and the Jerusalem council meets.</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
○ Acts 10:1-11:18	○ Acts 11:19-12:25	○ Acts 13-14	○ Acts 15:1-35	○ Acts 15:36-16:40	○ Psalm 68
Week of May 14	What's Our Reputation <i>We read about the reputation of the early church as those "turning the world upside down". Then we continue with more about Paul's journeys as the church grows and spreads.</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
○ Acts 17	○ Acts 18	○ Acts 19, 2 Corinthians 1:8-11	○ Acts 20, 2 Corinthians 11:21b-33	○ Acts 21:1-26	○ Psalm 66
Week of May 21	What's Our Story <i>Paul defends himself by sharing his story of conversion. Our readings this week walk us through the many facets of Paul's story as described in the last chapters of Acts.</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
○ Acts 21:27-22:29	○ Acts 22:30-23:35	○ Acts 24	○ Acts 25-26	○ Acts 27-28	○ Isaiah 6:1-13
Week of May 28	Pentecost--Beyond Us <i>We celebrate Pentecost by returning to this story in light of all that followed in the book of Acts. We conclude our series by reading letters to these early churches from the beginning of the book of Revelation.</i>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
□ Acts 2:1-41	○ Revelation 1	○ Revelation 2	○ Revelation 3	○ Revelation 4	○ Psalm 87