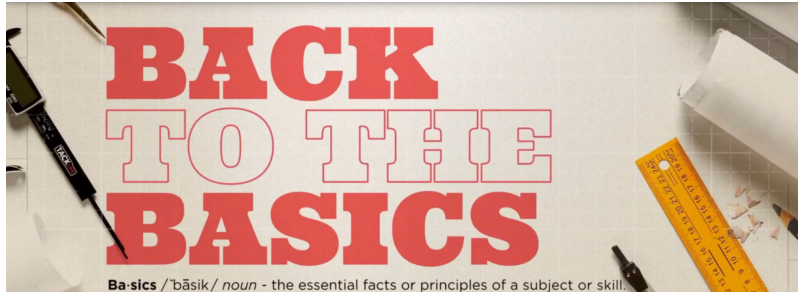


Instructions:

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pick 3-5 questions to discuss that pertain to your group's unique style and needs.



Series description:

The story of Acts is the story of the church, the Spirit drawing diverse people together around a common purpose and a common mission. Acts is the roots of our church, the origins of our faith. Join us as we go back to the basics as we explore the shared practices, leadership, mission, and spirit that defined the earliest followers of Christ. May they be simple guidelines and inspiration for us today.

Message description:

Acts 4 shows a community of believers who were of “one heart and soul,” holding their possessions in common and willingly giving up wealth, status, and security so that no one among them had need. **But this generosity wasn't just about giving; it was about using resources to remove barriers and create true belonging.**

This kind of communal life can only be Spirit-formed, where boldness and generosity grow and spread through shared action and influence. Our acts of generosity and inclusion have a ripple effect and encourage others to do the same. As a church today, we can use our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to advocate for our neighbors in need and to seek equity in our city. Acts shows us that the story of salvation is a story of true belonging—both to God and to one another.

Scripture: Acts 4:32-37

Questions based on this week's teaching:

1. The early church is described as being “of one heart and soul.” What do you think made that kind of unity possible, and what challenges make it difficult to experience that level of shared purpose today?
2. In Acts 4, believers didn't just give, they shared in a way that ensured no one had need. How does that challenge or reshape your understanding of generosity and stewardship?
3. Generosity can be contagious, as seen in examples like Barnabas and the feeding of the 5,000. Can you think of a time when someone else's generosity influenced your own actions?
4. The early church used their resources to remove barriers to belonging. What are some practical ways we could use our time, money, or influence to help others feel a greater sense of belonging in our community?
5. **The story of salvation is a story of belonging.** How does this change the way you think about faith, church, or your role in the community?