UNSHAKEABLE

Being a part of something that's <u>bigger</u> gives me value and purpose.

UNSHAKEABLE BIG IDEA:

In Christ, we are unshakeable!

IMPORTANT DATES NOV 16 | High School Commitment Night NOV 20 | Commitment Sunday

After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. Act 1:3 (NIV)

Jesus' mission was and is to establish the kingdom of God.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 (NIV)

One of Luke's purposes in writing Acts was to celebrate how the kingdom of God was advancing as God <u>added</u> to the church.

(Acts 2:41; 2:47; 4:4; 5:14; 9:31; 13:49; 16:5; 19:20)

TEACHING BIG IDEA: The Holy Spirit empowers and guides the church (______) to expand God's Kingdom by making disciples who are loving Jesus, becoming like Jesus, and sharing Jesus.

Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace and was strengthened. Living in the fear of the Lord and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers. Acts 9:31 (NIV)

The church was becoming a multi-ethnic community as they reached all <u>cultures</u> with the gospel of Jesus.

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism ³⁵ but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.

Acts 10:34-35 (NIV)

¹⁹ Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. ²⁰ Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. ²¹ The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.

Acts 11:19-21 (NIV)

²⁵ Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶ and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch. Acts 11:25-26 (NIV)

THE JERUSALEM COUNCIL

⁷ After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: "Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. ⁸ God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. ⁹ He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. ¹⁰ Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? ¹¹ No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are."

Acts 15:7-11 (NIV)



"It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. Acts 15:19 (NIV)

He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance! Acts 28:31 (NIV)

God's Kingdom will have an unshakeable reach as we:

- Form diverse communities where people are <u>equally</u> valued. (Loving Jesus)
- Obey the Holy Spirit and trust in God's power to work in us and through us. (Becoming Like Jesus)
- Share the good news in word and action. (Sharing Jesus)

The unshakable truth of Jesus is what will reach the <u>unreached</u> in our city and beyond as we follow Jesus.

I'm a valued member of God's Kingdom Family and my purpose is to be a disciple who makes disciples.



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

The book of Acts is Luke's second volume that describes what Jesus continued to do and teach as the Holy Spirit empowered the church to accomplish Jesus' mission to establish the Kingdom of God.

As the disciples of Jesus were witnesses of who Jesus was and what Jesus did, God used their message and their actions to reach into all cultures of humanity. Luke describes how the church reached outside of the Jewish culture into Asia Minor, Africa, and the rest of the Gentile (non-Jewish) world.

As the disciples of Jesus fully obeyed Jesus as Lord and trusted the Holy Spirit to empower them, God added to their number daily. God used persecution to create the first mult-ethnic church body in the ancient city of Antioch.

Yes, that church was messy and had its flaws, but it's proof that the Holy Spirit guides and empowers us to expand God's kingdom by making disciples, regardless of how messy our lives are.

TALK-IT-OVER:

You will find the questions to discuss with others in the *Unshakeable Guide*.

You can access the *Unshakeable Guide* and more at http://unshakeable.faith

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING:

Day 1) John 4:23-24 Day 2) Ephesians 3: 16-19 Day 3) 2 Peter 2:11-12 Day 4) Matthew 5:15-16 Day 5) Acts 5:25-32 Day 6) 2 Corinthians 5:17-18, Colossians 3:15-17