

The Story: The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and God's People

Chapter 28: New Beginnings

As you read, take note of the cast of characters. Write a short descriptive to help you remember. Who are the main characters?

Write any notes or questions you have.

Review the questions on page 486 in your book to prepare for discussion in class.

The “New Beginnings” are predominantly recorded in the book of Acts—the activities of the Apostles—after Jesus ascended into heaven.

What were the signs of Pentecost and the Holy Spirit?

Why was Peter’s sermon at Pentecost so effective? (page 391)

Why did the Jewish leaders dislike Christians?

What did the early disciples devote themselves to?

What factors helped the good news of Jesus spread so quickly?

How were the early Christians able to remain faithful in the midst of difficult situations? How is this like or unlike the situations we find ourselves in? How do we remain faithful?

Most early Christians were Jewish, but the movement expanded to include people who were not Jewish. Peter has a vision—about clean and unclean. How would this growth in the Christian following cause Jewish people to struggle? How do we respond when the doors are opened for people we might not feel comfortable with or worthy?

How has Peter changed from the gospels to Acts?