

Belmont Exeter House Group Notes w/c 7th June 2026

Acting it out – In the All Together. Acts 2:42 – 47; 4:32 – 37

Background

This teaching series will direct out attention to Jesus call to be his disciples, together on mission. The church is the outworking of the events of the life, death and resurrection of Christ. One of the key themes of the book of Acts is how the people God are to 'live under the rule of Jesus, between covenant fulfilment and cosmic renewal. The gift of the spirit makes us living examples of the former (covenant fulfilment) and signposts to the latter (cosmic renewal). Welcome to the Missionary church' (The Challenge of Acts, Tom Wright).

In our earlier series through Mark, 'Who is this man?' we've seen the answer that Jesus is the Messiah, God's anointed king. He becomes king through his death and resurrection, turning the world upside. In Acts. Luke describes what happens next. How we are to act this out. Jesus sends out his people to be messengers and signposts, so that others may come into this kingdom and enjoy restoration and reconciliation.

Through these studies we will focus on how the people of God, as a spirit filled community in Christ, are to live out this vocation.

This study follows the sermon on 7th June 2026. If you weren't able to be at the service, you can watch on YouTube (<https://youtube.com/belmontexeter>) or listen on the Belmont website (<http://belmontexeter.church/talks>)

The discussion outline below is a guide only. Please take time to pray and prepare the discussion for your group. Some resources you may find helpful to supplement these notes are:

Tom Wright, *Acts for Everyone*

Tom Wright, *The Challenge of Acts*

John Stott, *The Message of Acts* (BST)

<https://bibleproject.com/guides/book-of-acts/>

BIG IDEA: Our life as a community of believers is a living example of the gospel intended as a witness to the world around us.

WAY IN: Excluding church community, what experiences (good or bad) have you had of being in a group or club? How did you respond to those experiences?

Pray

READ: Acts 2:41 – 47 & 4: 32 – 37

DIG IN

What are the patterns of life that the early church adopted?

The overarching story of Scripture is about God's intention to come and live with us / in us, seen initially in the garden of Eden and again at the end of the Bible in Revelation 21 /22, achieved through the death and resurrection of Jesus. In what ways do the patterns of the church reflect this story? *(e.g. listening to the word of God as He walks with us; stewarding the resources God has given us for the blessing of others)*

What was the impact of this community life?

LIVE IT

We talk often at Belmont of 'Sharing the Story and Living the Life'. In what ways do you see our community life demonstrating to others the good news that Jesus is Lord. Make a list and then pause to and give thanks for what God has done.

We're not living in the 1st century, so we need to translate these practices to our own situation. Are there specific actions we could take to strengthen these practices in our home group? In our church?

How could these also be a witness to those around us? (e.g. are we able to confidently express to others outside of church what God's doing amongst us)

PRAY IT IN

Pray for wisdom to recognise the work of the Lord in the church community and to have confidence to share the good news that is the community of Christ's people

We're engaging in mission locally in Newtown and across the city through the JoyFest initiative. Pray for specific individuals who you are likely to encounter and for opportunities to explain and demonstrate the good news that Jesus is Lord.