



# Scattered

**Setting the Table**



# Recap

**Attractionalism** is the belief that creating an appealing church service and programs will attract unbelievers to come to church. **Dave Devries**

“Christianity has lost its place at the **centre** of American life. Christians must learn how to live the gospel as a distinct people who **no longer occupy the centre of society**. We must learn to build relational bridges that win a hearing.” **Hugh Halter**

# Recap

- Sunday experience
- Pastor Centric
- Attractional
- resource heavy

- non-programmed-
- works oriented-
- Biblically light-
- non-discipleship-

Gathered



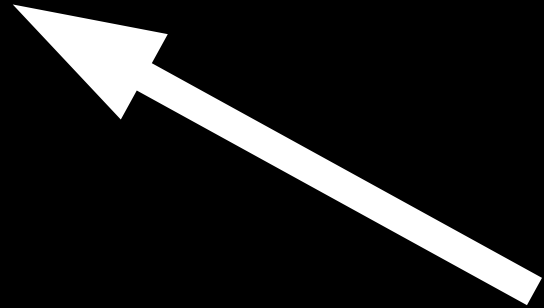
Scattered

Sunday encouragement  
Teaching centric  
Community Oriented  
Spirit empowered  
Resource light  
Everyday Faith

# Recap

transformation

serving



The church is the **gathering** and **scattering** of disciples committed to the **mission** of Jesus



gospel

But **you** will receive power when the **Holy Spirit** comes upon you... **Acts 1:8**

# Why Does Something Go Viral? Kiri Blakeley

No one can deny the power of the virus. No, not that kind of virus. The Internet kind! Whether it's a video, a song, a picture, or a blog, something going viral can mean the difference between success and failure; riches and poverty; immortality and obscurity; life and death. Okay, maybe not that last one—unless you are seeking a kidney transplant. **But why does one thing go viral and something similar not?**

# Why Does Something Go Viral? Kiri Blakeley

The problem is, of course, that **no one can predict** what will go viral and what won't.

Simplicity

Relatable

Snark

Location, Location, Location  
(timing, timing, timing)

# The Rise of Christianity, Rodney Stark

For a starting number, Acts 1:14-15 suggests that several months after the Crucifixion there were **120**

Christians. Later, in Acts 4:4, a total of **5,000** believers is claimed. And, according to Acts 21:20, by the sixth decade of the first century there were “**many thousands of Jews**” in Jerusalem who now believed.

if Christianity grew at the rate of 40 percent per decade, there would have been 7,530 Christians in the year 100, followed by 217,795 Christians in the year 200 and by **6,299,832** Christians in the year 300

# The Rise of Christianity, Rodney Stark

An unusual number of Christian converts, for example, came from the **educated, cosmopolitan classes**.



“It was unthinkable that a **small, despised movement from a corner of Palestine** could move out to become the **dominant faith of the mighty Roman Empire**, an empire steeped in fiercely defended traditional pagan religions.

The spread of the Christian church in its earliest centuries is one of the most amazing phenomena in all of human history. The church was considered a *religio prava*, an illegal and depraved religion. Wave after wave of persecution was unleashed to squash it. At least two of the persecutions were empire-wide and intended to destroy the church. **So how did this young fledgling movement make it?”** Church History 101

How does the church function on the **fringes** of culture? Absent of power, prestige and resources the church in Acts shows us how the church was meant to function

Imagine what it would be like if the Book of Acts were missing. You would pick up your Bible and see the ministry of Jesus ending in the Gospel of John; next you would read about a guy named Paul writing to followers of Jesus in Rome. Who was Paul? How did the gospel get from Jerusalem to Rome? The Book of Acts answers these questions.

"A great New Testament scholar has said that the title of Acts might be, 'How they brought the Good News from **Jerusalem to Rome**.'" **Barclay**

The book of Acts moves from the **theoretical** to the **practical** (the Kingdom in practice)

Acts takes us up to about **62-63 A.D.**, with Paul in Rome waiting to appear before Caesar Nero. This same Nero began his infamous persecutions of Christians in 64 A.D. The book starts at around **28 A.D.**

Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us. They used the eyewitness reports circulating among us from the early disciples. Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write an accurate account for you, **most honourable Theophilus**, so you can be **certain of the truth** of everything you were taught. **Luke 1:1-4**

In my first book I told you, **Theophilus**, about everything Jesus began to do and teach until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God. **Acts 1:1-3**

Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. John baptized with water, **but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.**” vs 4-5

“I baptize with water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I’m not worthy even to be his slave and carry his sandals. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.**” Matthew 3:11

So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to **free Israel** and **restore our kingdom?**” vs 6

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be **my witnesses**, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” vs 8



# Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria and to the ends of the earth

Jerusalem-Home, our people

Judea-Our neighbourhood

Samaria-Our enemies

Ends of the Earth-Unknown, death

After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, **but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!**” vs 9-11

Here are the names of those who were present: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (the zealot), and Judas (son of James). They all met together and **were constantly united in prayer**, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus. **vs 13-14**

“So now we must choose a replacement for Judas from **among the men who were with us the entire time we were traveling with the Lord Jesus**— from the time he was baptized by John until the day he was taken from us. Whoever is chosen will join us as a witness of Jesus’ resurrection.” **vs 21-22**

"We formerly rejoiced in uncleanness of life, **but now** love only chastity; before we used the magic arts, **but now** dedicate ourselves to the true and unbegotten God; before we loved money and possessions more than anything, **but now** we share what we have and to everyone who is in need; before we hated one another and killed one another and would not eat with those of another race, **but now** since the manifestation of Christ, we have come to a common life and pray for our enemies and try to win over those who hate us without just cause." **Justin Martyr, 130 AD**

Pippin stares up at the vast night sky,  
“It's so quiet.” Gandalf replies “It's  
the **deep breath before the plunge.**”  
Lord of the Rings, Return of the King

So I spoke the message as he commanded me, and **breath** came into their bodies. They all **came to life** and stood up on their feet—a **great army**. **Ezekiel 37:10**

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