

**Acts 28:17-31**

**Acts 28:17-18** *After three days he called together the local leaders of the Jews, and when they had gathered, he said to them, “Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our fathers, yet I was delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. When they examined me, they wished to set me at liberty, because there was no reason for the death penalty in my case.”*

**Acts 28:19-20** *“But because the Jews objected, I was compelled to appeal to Caesar - though I had no charge to bring against my nation. For this reason, therefore, I have asked to see you and speak with you, since it is because of the hope of Israel that I am wearing this chain.”*

He reassures them he hasn't come to Rome to seek vengeance on the Judean Jews  
Instead, he comes bringing hope (the good news)

**Jeremiah 17:13** *O LORD, the hope of Israel, all who forsake you shall be put to shame; those who turn away from you shall be written in the earth, for they have forsaken the LORD, the fountain of living water.*

**Acts 20:21** *And they said to him, “We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken any evil about you.”*

Maybe Paul got to Rome before his accusers from Judea could get there

**Acts 28:22** *“But we desire to hear from you what your views are, for with regard to this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against.”*

Predetermined opinion? The word “sect” was the same word for “heresy”

The Jews were tentatively resettling in Rome after Claudius had expelled them 4 years earlier, so they are trying to disassociate themselves from the Christians

**Acts 28:23** *When they had appointed a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in greater numbers. From morning till evening he expounded to them, testifying to the Kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets.*

Paul uses the OT to how the kingdom of God is manifested in/through Jesus

Logos (word) + Ethos (trustworthiness of the speaker) + Pathos (how it hits the heart)

Is it possible to be convinced of the gospel and yet not be converted?

**Acts 28:24-27** *And some were convinced by what he said, but others disbelieved. And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after Paul had made one statement: “The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet: Go to this people, and say, You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.” For this people’s heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.*

Quoted from Isaiah 6:9-10

**Acts 28:28** *Therefore let it be known to you that this salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles; they will listen.*

Where is verse 29..? (And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, having much dispute among themselves.) (Even though this would seem to be their likely response, it seems to be a repeat of verse 25, and the majority of early manuscripts do not include this verse.)

**Acts 28:30-31** *He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.*

During this two year period in Rome, Paul wrote Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon

He was released sometime in 62 or 63, probably travelled and preached the gospel, and then was re-arrested in 67, where he then wrote 2 Timothy

**2 Timothy 4:6-8** *For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.*

Israel, the Jewish nation were not a big deal to the Romans. They were situated far away, almost to the eastern end of their empire.

The fact that the gospel spread so widely, so dramatically in 30 years or so, was nothing short of remarkable.

The kingdom message of Jesus went from Jew to Gentile  
And from Jerusalem to Rome and beyond

**Acts 1:1-2** *In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.*

Luke didn't write Acts as a biography of Paul

It was written so readers could see that Jesus was still working, now through His Church

**Acts 1:8** *but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*

The GOSPEL is the motive and message

**Acts 16:9-10** *And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.*

The HOLY SPIRIT is the Director/Doer

**Acts 13:2** While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

PRAYER is the atmosphere

**Acts 1:14, 13:3** All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers... Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

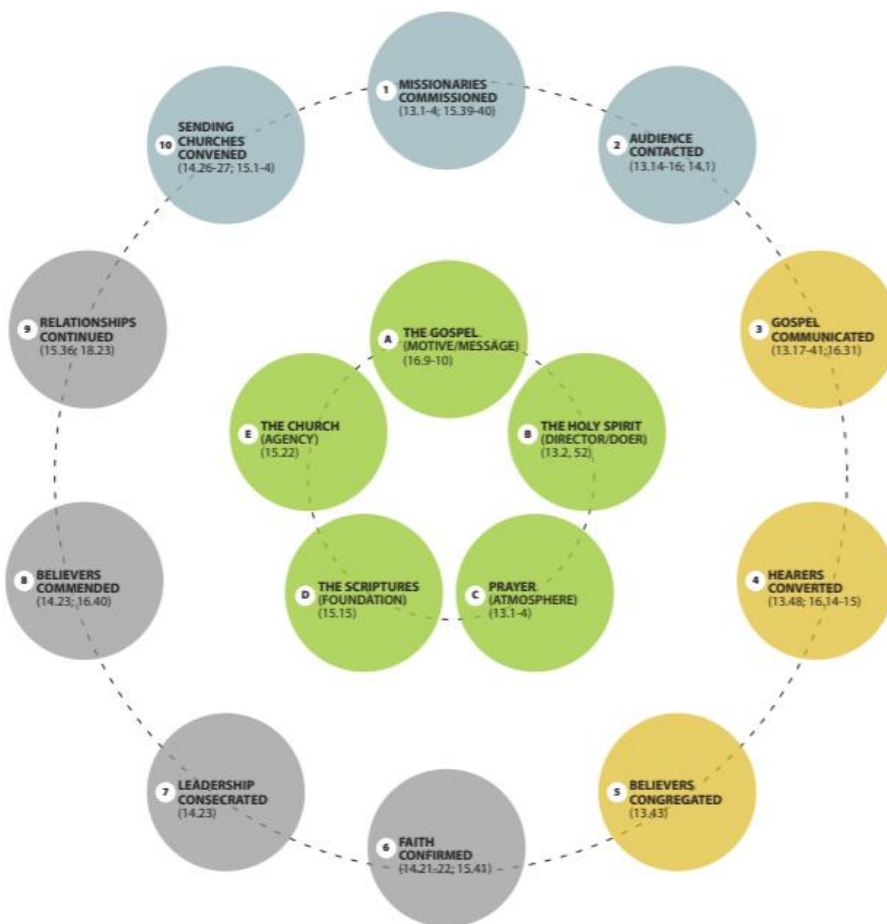
THE SCRIPTURES are the foundation

**Acts 15:15** And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written.

THE CHURCH is the agency

**Acts 15:22** then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brothers.

**PAULINE CHURCH PLANTING CYCLE FROM ACTS**  
(MATERIAL ADAPTED FROM THE ANTIOCH SCHOOL OF CHURCH PLANTING AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT)



**CORE ELEMENTS FOR PLANTING**  
(ESSENTIALS FOR GOSPEL MULTIPLICATION)

A B C D E

**PLANT THE GOSPEL**  
(ESTABLISH CHURCHES IN GOSPEL)

2 3 4 5

**ADORN THE GOSPEL**  
(GROW CHURCHES IN GOSPEL)

6 7 8 9

**PROPAGATE THE GOSPEL**  
(MULTIPLY GOSPEL CHURCHES)

1 2 10