

# A NEW THING

## A NEW THING

Acts

## SERIES OVERVIEW

### THE POINT

Whenever we're waiting on a new thing to begin, it can be frustrating, overwhelming, and exhausting. Deep down, we all have things that we're waiting for and hoping for, whether we're at the end of something or the start of something new. It can be scary and overwhelming, but God has a great plan for each and every one of us. There's a miracle waiting for us!

Week 1 – The End. Acts 1:6-26, 2:1-4

Week 2 – A New Start. Acts 3:1-10

### KEY CHALLENGES

Week 1 - The end of something is often an amazing opportunity for something new to come.

Week 2 - Good things can happen even when you've been stuck for a long time.



**Main Idea:** The end of something is often an amazing opportunity for something new to come.

**Key Scripture:** Acts 1:6-26, 2:1-4

Hey students! Welcome to [youth group]. My name is [your name] and I am thrilled to see you today! I believe that God has something special in store for us as we open His Word tonight and start a brand-new series called *A New Thing*.

Turn to your neighbor and tell them, “we’re doing something new.”

For the next two weeks, we’re going to be looking at the book of Acts and seeing what the disciples did after Jesus ascended to heaven, and they were put in charge of the mission that He had given them. It was a HUGE change for the disciples, and it was probably really difficult for them to take charge when their leader was gone.

They were tasked with doing a new thing, and it probably felt like their big journey with Jesus was ending, (remember, they were with this guy for three years and He called the shots!) but what likely felt like the end was actually the start of bigger and better things.

[Teacher’s Note: Tell a story about a time where you had to start something new, and it was pretty scary but it ended up being amazing!]

Starting something new can be terrifying but I believe that God wants to show us tonight that He’s going to be with us when we take a step out of our comfort zone for Him!

Let’s pray to start of the night. [Pray here.]

Let’s turn in our Bibles to **Acts 1:6-11 (ESV)** to get started.

*<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> 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.”<sup>9</sup> And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.<sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes,<sup>11</sup> and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”*

The first thing I want to share with you guys tonight is:

## **1. The Story Ended**

This part of Scripture sounds like an ending. Jesus gave some final words, and then He ascended into heaven. His time on Earth was done and their leader and savior was gone. If I was there, and I didn't know the rest of the story, I would definitely have thought that was the end.

Their adventure with Jesus might have ended but they chose to be obedient to Jesus and start a new adventure. Jesus told them to wait, He said that they would receive power from the Holy Spirit, and they would become His witnesses all over the world. So, with expectation they waited for this to happen even though they weren't really sure what they were looking for.

[Teacher's Note: take a moment to ask the students if they've ever had to wait for something but they weren't sure what it was. Follow this up with sharing a story about this happening to you.]

The big ending of this story also came with an announcement that Jesus would return. The first story ended when Jesus came to Earth, the second story ended when He left Earth, the third story is happening right now, and the fourth is yet to come.

When a new adventure starts, there's always something big that you have to do before you can start and that's the second thing I want to share with you all.

## **2. They Began to Prepare**



**Main Idea:** Good things can happen even when you've been stuck for a long time.

1. Have you ever been in a situation where you felt stuck? What was it like?
2. Have you ever felt like the beggar, hopeless and accepting that the situation you're in is just how life will be?
3. What is one way that we can focus on God even when things aren't going well?
4. How do you think we can trust that God has good things in store for us?
5. How do you feel about the idea that God might not give you what you expect but what He does give you will be even better?
6. Do you believe that God will bring you the miracles that you need in your life? Why or why not?
7. How should we respond when the miracle comes?
8. Take prayer requests and pray.

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