

IFM

INSTRUCTIONAL
FACILITATOR'S
MANUAL

Worksheets

The following pages provide printed masters representing the worksheets referenced in this IFM. These masters may be photocopied to create handouts for class study.

These worksheets are also available in a PDF file on the CD attached to this manual.

Some worksheets provide prescribed answer keys, which are printed on the back of the respective worksheet.

Solving the Mystery of Who Wrote Acts

Use the following clues to narrow the focus of our search for the author of Acts.

Clue 1

The writer of Acts was one of those who traveled with Paul on some missionary trips. Acts 16:10 says, “After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia.” (See also Acts 20:5; 21:18; 27:1; 28:1–2, 10–16). List the people who fit the description of having traveled with Paul.

Acts 13:2 _____ Acts 16:3 _____
 Acts 13:13 _____ Acts 18:18 _____
 Acts 15:40–41 _____ Acts 20:4 _____

Clue 2

Whoever wrote Acts also wrote another book about Jesus. Compare the first few verses of Acts to the first verses of each of the Gospels. Who seems to be the strongest candidate for the Acts author’s first book about Jesus?

Answer: _____

Clue 3

Two Gospels were written by apostles (Matthew and John), while two were written by non-apostles (Mark and Luke). Of these two, which book’s organization best matches that of Acts, giving strong evidence of a shared author?

Mark	Luke	Acts
The gospel of the Kingdom (1–4:34)	Greeting to Theophilus (1:1–4)	Greeting to Theophilus (1:1–2)
The Kingdom’s inauguration (4:36–8:26)	Early life of Jesus (1:5–3:20)	Early life of the church (1–8)
Jesus recognized as Christ (8:27–9:13)	Anointing of Jesus (3:22)	Anointing of the church (2:4)
Death and resurrection (9:14–16:18)	First sermon at Nazareth (4:14–30)	First sermon at Pentecost (2)
	Confirming miracles and healings (4:31–41)	Confirming miracles and healings (3–5)
	Success and popularity (5–18)	Success and popularity (2–5)
	Growing opposition (19–21)	Growing opposition (4–8)
	Travel through Galilee, Judea, and Perea (3–8)	Travel on missionary trips (8–21)
	Arrest and threefold trial before the Sanhedrin, Pilate, and Herod (22–23)	Arrest and threefold trial before Felix, Festus, and Agrippa (24–26)
	Climax of ministry and Christ’s resurrection (23–24)	Climax of ministry in Rome (28)

Answer: _____

Answers: Solving the Mystery of Who Wrote Acts

Use the following clues to narrow the focus of our search for the author of Acts.

Clue 1

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Acts 13:2	<u>Barnabas</u>	Acts 16:3	<u>Timothy</u>
Acts 13:13	<u>Mark (John Mark)</u>	Acts 18:18	<u>Priscilla and Aquila</u>
Acts 15:40–41	<u>Silas</u>	Acts 20:4	<u>Sopater, Aristarchus, Secundus, Gaius, Timothy, Tychicus, Trophimus</u>

Clue 2

Whoever wrote Acts also wrote another book about Jesus. Compare the first few verses of Acts to the first verses of each of the Gospels. Who seems to be the strongest candidate for the Acts author’s first book about Jesus?

Answer: Luke

Clue 3

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Answer: Luke’s organization closely resembles that of Acts.

Clue 4

Because of the evidence listed above, in addition to strong similarities in style, phraseology, and even length, believers and biblical scholars have accepted Luke as the author of both the third Gospel and Acts. Ancient testimony also attributes the writing of Acts to Luke:

Ancient Testimony as to Who Wrote Acts	
Clement of Alexandria:	Luke
Eusebius	Luke
Muratorian Canon	Luke

Clement of Alexandria was an early Christian apologist who lived from approximately AD 150 to 215. He converted to the faith as an adult. Clement wrote three manuscripts that were used to teach young Christians and address common problems; these works became doctrine models for others.

Eusebius was an early church historian. Apart from the apostles and the New Testament writings, Eusebius's *Ecclesiastical History* comprises a large part of what we know of the history of this era. Eusebius Pamphilius was the Bishop of Caesarea. He lived from approximately AD 260 to 339.

The **Muratorian Canon (or Fragment)** is a copy of perhaps the oldest known list of the books of the New Testament. It is thought to be a seventh-century Latin manuscript found by Father Ludovico Muratori in a monastery at Bobbio in Northern Italy.

Conclusion

What do you say? Who wrote the book of Acts?

Answer: _____

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Answer: _____ Luke _____

Help Wanted

Spirit-Empowered Ministry Opportunities

What have you been doing for God? With the Holy Spirit's power, everyone can play an important role in spreading the good news and growing the church. Indicate which of the following ministries you have been involved in already. Then prayerfully consider practical ways you might allow God to use you in one or more additional areas.

Ministry	Who did it?	Reference	I've done this!	Describe it.
Gave food to the needy	Seven deacons	Acts 6:1–7		
Sewed clothes for the poor	Tabitha	Acts 9:36–39		
Provided housing for a Christian worker	Simon the tanner	Acts 10:5–6		
Gave to those in need	Cornelius	Acts 10:2		
Served as a deacon	Philip	Acts 8:4–8		
Witnessed wherever they went	Scattered believers	Acts 11:19–21		
Held a prayer meeting in her home	Mary, Mark's mother	Acts 12:12		
Prayed for those in need	Believers	Acts 12:12		
Traveled with and helped missionaries	John Mark	Acts 12:25; 15:39		
Fed Christian workers and washed their wounds	Philippian jailer	Acts 16:33–34		
Spoke boldly for Jesus	Apollos	Acts 18:24–28		
Encouraged and recommended a Christian worker	Unnamed believers	Acts 18:27		
Prophesied	Philip's four daughters	Acts 21:10–11		
Wrote books that would teach and encourage believers	Luke			

Symbols of the Spirit

Look up the following Bible passages, and write a brief description of the working of the Spirit of God and the symbolism involved.

Wind

Genesis 2:7

Fire

Exodus 3:2

Ezekiel 37:5, 14

Deuteronomy 4:10-12

Based on what you read in Genesis 2:7 and Ezekiel 37:5, 14, why is the sign of the sound of rushing wind on the Day of Pentecost particularly significant?

Based in the circumstances of the fire in Exodus 3:2 and Deuteronomy 4:10-12, what is the significance of the tongues of fire present on the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2?

Reports from Acts

They Spoke in Tongues

The initial Day of Pentecost is somewhat unique, yet the baptism in the Holy Spirit is not given once for all. The text of Acts shows that the baptism in the Spirit is available to all believers.

Many verses in Acts mention the infilling of the Holy Spirit accompanied by supernatural evidence. Look up the following passages and complete the chart. Describe the outward evidence of the inner filling.

Evidence of the Holy Spirit's Baptism as Recorded in Acts		
Reference	Setting	Outward Evidence of the Inner Filling
Acts 2:1–4	The Day of Pentecost	All 120 believers who were present spoke in new languages as soon as they were filled with the Holy Spirit.
Acts 8:14–19	New believers in Samaria	
Acts 9:17–19	Saul's conversion and baptism	
Acts 10:44–46	The Gentile Cornelius's home	
Acts 19:1–7	Paul's encounter with believers in Ephesus	

Answers: Reports from Acts

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Acts 2:1–4	The Day of Pentecost	All 120 believers who were present spoke in new languages as soon as they were filled with the Holy Spirit.
Acts 8:14–19	New believers in Samaria	Samaritan believers must have shown supernatural signs of being filled with the Spirit, because the magician, Simon, tried to buy the power to bestow the Holy Spirit on others. They likely spoke in other tongues according to the New Testament pattern.
Acts 9:17–19	Saul's conversion and baptism	We are not specifically told Saul spoke in tongues when he was filled with the Spirit, but 1 Corinthians 14:18 makes it clear that Paul spoke in tongues often.
Acts 10:44–46	The Gentile Cornelius's home	The Holy Spirit came on the Gentile believers and they spoke in tongues and praised God.
Acts 19:1–7	Paul's encounter with believers in Ephesus	The Holy Spirit came on them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.