

ACTS

Part 1

A T E E Programmed Text

M. Fox, D. Karo, S. Baturi, E. Maxwell

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Quotations in this text are from the Revised Standard Version of the Bible in the American spelling. For the text the English spelling is used.

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INTRODUCTION

This is another book to help you study the Bible. It is written especially to help church leaders learn about the growth of the early church. It teaches the first part of the book of Acts, or chapters 1—12. In these chapters, the church began and then grew quickly. It had many troubles and many victories which can guide us today.

This book is like a teacher. It talks to you. It tells you things to do. If you want to learn, read carefully. Write all the answers and do all the work. Use the lessons in your church work. The lessons are written for home study and this is called PI or Programmed Instruction. Students should also meet for weekly discussion meetings with a leader. Using the books this way is called TEE or Theological Education by Extension. TEE brings training for church leaders right to their homes.

Evangelical churches in many parts of Africa are working together to write these books. Each lesson is carefully written. Then it is tested to be sure it teaches well. It is careful to say what the Bible says. All the churches who help with these books accept the Bible as the true Word of God. People teach Bible lessons in different ways, but when they follow the Bible and believe on Jesus as the only way of salvation, we accept them as brothers. We try to have people of different churches check the lessons so all lessons carefully follow the Bible. We edit the lessons to make the books fit together and so all the churches can use them. Some people write to us about the books. This is good because we hear what is good and where there are problems. We would be happy for you to write to us about your work and what you think of the books.

Many people helped to write Acts, Part 1. The lessons have been written, tested, and rewritten. Mary Fox has the B. S. and M. Lib. Sc. from North Texas State University, and M.R.E. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. She has been a missionary in Africa 14 years as a teacher and in literature work. She now directs the correspondance course program of adult education for Nigerian Baptist Convention.

Rev. Dawuda Karo of Nigeria has graduated from Kagoro Bible College and the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary. He has a Diploma of Religious Studies from the University of Ibadan and is undertaking further studies in the U.S.A. He has more than 12 years experience in pastors' training.

Sani Baturi completed his Bible training at Kagoro Bible College near Jos, Nigeria. He is now working in the church offices of the Evangelical Churches of West Africa with headquarters in Jos.

Ernest Maxwell is a man trained at Prairie Bible Institute in Canada. He has been a missionary in Nigeria for more than twenty years. Most of this time he has been teaching in Bible Colleges of the SIM mission. In recent years he has been leading a large TEE programme for pastors.

These people have worked hard to prepare this book for you. Study it carefully. You will learn much about the book of Acts and about how to lead the church.

Your friends in Christ
Fred Holland
TEXT - Africa Coordinator
Wheaton Grad School
Wheaton, IL. 60187

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This book is your teacher. It will teach you a lesson each day. Obey carefully what the book says just as you would obey a teacher. When the teacher tells you to take your Bible and read, you do not just look at him. You take your Bible and read. This is what you must do with this book.

In school the teacher tells the students something. He explains it carefully. Then he asks questions. When students answer well, the teacher goes on to the next teaching. This book uses the same way of teaching. First it gives you a small part of the lesson. Then it asks you a question. If you read carefully, you will be able to answer well. If you answer well it shows that you have understood. It also helps you to remember what you have read.

Usually you will be able to give the right answers. If you are not sure of the answer, read again the teaching from the last question. If you are still not sure, then write the best answer you can. Then go on. As you do the lesson you will find out if you are answering well. But it is very important that you always write your best answer before you read the next part. It will help if you use a piece of paper to cover the rest of the page as you read.

Move the paper down to the heavy line which looks like this: =====. Read the teaching and answer the question. Then move the paper down to the next heavy line. In this way you will not read the answer before you are ready for it. As you read the answer, think about it. It will correct you if you are learning wrong.

It will take you 10 weeks to finish this book. Do one lesson each day for five days of each week. Do not try to do two or three lessons in one day. The last questions for each day are the most important ones. They show what the teacher wants you to remember. We call these the objectives of the book. At the end of the week, you have learned well if you can answer these questions.

This book should be used with a discussion meeting each week. You should have a leader to help you with your problems. The leader should also help you discuss with other students what you have learned. If you have not studied the lessons before class, you will not understand what is being said.

If there is no leader to help you with these lessons, call together some of your friends. Ask them to study the lessons. Then meet together and let someone in the group lead a discussion. We believe you will like this kind of learning. When you come to the end of the book, you will be surprised how much you have learned.

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