



**REVOLUTION**  
**“The Impact of the Church”**  
*Acts 2:41-47*  
 August 2, 2015

**Impact:** *the striking of one thing against another forceful contact, collision; influence, effect; the force exerted by a new idea, concept, technology or idea; to drive forcefully to drive or press closely or firmly into something, pack in; to have an impact or effect on, influence or alter*

**What Does Impact Look Like?**

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Launches a Movement    | Leaving Behind a Legacy  |
| Long Lasting Effects   | Leading Others           |
| Leverage               | Loving Others            |
| Limitless – A Lifetime | Light the Way for Others |

**Why Was There Impact?**

- ✓ **The Church Was *Focused* on the Right Priorities**  
 Devoted to Learning, Loving, & to the Lord
- ✓ **The Church Was *Full* of the Right Spirit**
  - It Involved Everyone & A Sense Awe & Wonder
  - It Involved Great Generosity
  - It Involved Consistency & Doing Life Together
- ✓ **The Church Had the *Favor* of God**
- ✓ **The Crowd *Found* Transformed Lives**

**What Was the Impact?**

- ✓ The Favor of Man
- ✓ The Salvation of Men
- ✓ The Multiplication of the Gospel
- ✓ The Mobilizing of the Disciples

**What Has Petal FBC’s Impact Been So Far This Year?**

**What Are the Opportunities for Impact This Fall?**

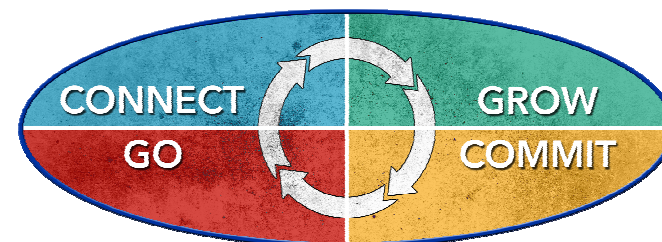
**Where Have You Had an Impact & How Have You Been Impacted This Year?**



**Where Will You Have an Impact & How Will You Be Impacted This Fall?**



**Where Are You on the Transformation Journey?**



## THE ACTS: REVOLUTION

“The Impact of the Church”

*Acts 2:41-47*

August 2, 2015 AM Service

### Movie Clip Deep Impact

This morning we going to talk about the Impact of the Early Church this morning though different in many ways, I pray that we in our generation would answer the Lord’s Call to leave a deep and lasting impact in the lives of those who come in contact with!

Many in our day are saying like Chicken Little – the sky is falling and yes there are some dark days in our history, times of great moral decay, times of great tragedy, sad when our culture is more outraged at the death of some lion and little outrage over Planned Parenthood and their murder of babies and taking their organs and tissues, times of great conflict but dear Petal FBC let us never underestimate the power of God displayed through the church and the impact that we can have on this culture as we are radically transformed by the power of the Gospel so that they Lord can use us to see other lives transformed too! I want you to know today, I am dismayed... I am saddened... I am even devastated at where our culture is headed but it is when I get my eyes off of that and get my eyes back on Jesus that I am reminded of the HUGE impact the Lord has had on my life and how He changed me and transformed me and continues to do that, I am compelled that I deeply desire others both here and to the ends of the earth to be deeply impacted by Jesus that it changes them forever. And our world needs us now more than ever and for us to leave a deep, long lasting and demonstrative impact through the power of the Lord Jesus Christ!

This morning we want to take a look at the Impact of the Church as we complete **The ACTS: Revolution**. As we look back we see a revolution like never before nor has ever been repeated since of the revolution that took place in the lives of those early believers and how the Lord used them to revolutionize the world in such way that left an impact that we are still feeling and walking in today. This is not some story that we are looking at in Scripture that happened a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away that has no effect on us today. Oh no! It was and still is a revolution and is becoming more of one in our day more than ever in the history of this

country. So the question is? Are we being deeply impacted by the Lord every day? Are we allowing and asking the Lord to use us to make an impact in our generation? Are we doing the same as a Church Family? And finally, are we asking the question, what will that impact look like by this time next year and how are we going to get there?

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### **What Does Impact Look Like?**

- ✓ Launches a Movement
- ✓ Leaves Ripples Behind - Long Lasting Effects
- ✓ Leverage – Influence, Force, Control, Power
- ✓ Limitless – Lasts a Lifetime
- ✓ Leave Behind a Legacy
- ✓ Leading Others to Christ & Loving Others Christ
- ✓ Lighting the Way for Others to find Christ

### **Why Was The Impact?**

- ✓ **The Church Was Focused on the Right Priorities**

We know what they are but many are not focusing their lives on them – instead focusing them on what will not last, jobs, money, recognition, hobbies, sports. The Church had deep and lasting impact because they were focused on what mattered the most. Loving God and loving others! And we can't just do these out of necessity or some obligation we feel, but it must come from a deep devotion to the Lord!

**Priorities Must Come From Devotion – Key Word is devotion**

- ✓ **Devoted to Learning**
- ✓ **Devoted to Loving**
- ✓ **Devoted to the Lord – Prayer & Lord's Supper**
- ✓ **The Church Was Full of the Right Spirit**
  - It Involved Everyone and They Were All Together**
  - It Involved a Sense of Awe & Wonder**
  - In Awe Of God & In Awe Of What Was Happening
  - It Involved Great Generosity**

They Were Selfless, Willing to Sacrifice, Willing to Share  
**It Involved Consistency** day by day and unified in doing it  
**It Involved Doing Life Together**  
They Were Connecting; Growing, Going, & Committing

✓ **The Church Had the Favor of God**

How do we know? We see the clear evidence of it! How we should long for the favor of God and the favor of God rests on those who seek to live for the glory and the fame of His name and not their own! Those who seek His kingdom and not their own!

✓ **The Crowd Found Transformed Lives**

Displayed in Worshiping the Lord / Unity – They were Together, on the same page, no disharmony or conflict that wasn't worked through / They were consistently in Prayer Together / Joy – Continually Praising the Lord

**What Was the Impact?**

✓ **The Favor of Man - Galatians 1:10** Again our ultimate goal is the favor of God, but because they were seeking that they were able to have favor with man – not in a compromising way, but in a way where people were being drawn to what they saw happened – those transformed lives were contagious, people wanted to know and see what was happening and they wanted it their lives too!

✓ **The Salvation of Men** - 3,000 thousand souls were added in one day

✓ **The Multiplication of the Gospel** – the Lord was adding day by day

✓ **The Mobilizing of the Disciples** We know this was happening because we see these multiplication continue throughout the book of Acts! This is our clear call dear Petal FBC!

**What Kind of Impact Have We Had This Year**

✓ Completion and Launch of Vision 2020 alongside our Generosity Ladder Emphasis

✓ Fed Petal Primary School Teachers & Staff

✓ Launched our Shoes Emphasis with PPS (Gave over 30 pair away)

✓ Launched our Weekend Food Backpacks for PPS Students (33 kids)

✓ Student Ministry DNow Weekend

✓ Trip to Jackson & Shekinah Glory

✓ Indonesian Mission Trip with great results

- ✓ Kidz Extreme with just shy of 490 people
- ✓ Kidz Camp with over 50
- ✓ Mfuge with over 50
- ✓ Block Party with 11 families & partnering with Bethel Assembly of God
- ✓ Backyard Bible Club in June and July with 10-15 children
- ✓ Haiti Mission Trips with 26 going
- ✓ Feeding New Teachers in Petal School District

Let's talk about that impact for a second – these are all wonderful things but what we want to focus on the most is transformed lives. How many lives were and still are being transformed by being a part of these moments?

Interview: Eric Brady, Shauna Dyer, Brian Riels, Emma Seavey

### **What Kind of Impact Can We Have This Fall?**

- ✓ Continued Implementation of Vision 2020
- ✓ Start Here Offered in August for New Members
- ✓ Back to School Blowout with Blessing of the Backpacks
- ✓ 3Eleven Night – Luke 3:11 – with the continuation of the Weekend Food Backpacks
- ✓ Big Brother/Sister @ Petal Primary
- ✓ Tutoring After School @ PPS
- ✓ Margaret Lackey State Missions Offering in September
- ✓ Continued Backyard Bible Club in our Target Neighborhood
- ✓ The Gospel Revolution Churchwide Emphasis (Reading through the Gospels & Emphasis on Liferoups – launching several new ones)
- ✓ Worship & “Can We Talk?” with Mt. Vernon on September 20
- ✓ Another Block Party
- ✓ Trip to Shekinah Glory in Jackson
- ✓ Possible Fall Break Trip to Ohio
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> Indonesia Trip
- ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> Haiti Trip
- ✓ 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Friend Sunday – November 1
- ✓ Joint Worship with Carterville, Piney Grove, Petal FBC & Mt. Vernon with Special Guest Fred Luter

✓ Stop Hunger Now / OCC / Thanksgiving Baskets / Lottie Moon Offering /

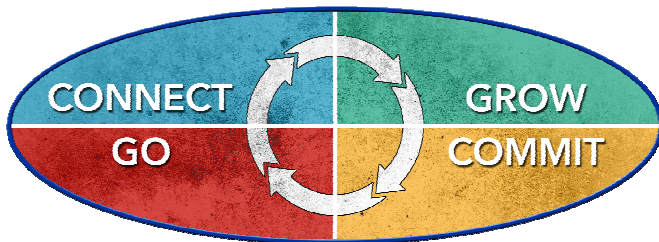
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**We are not designed to be a Cruise Ship but a Battle Ship**

**What's the Difference?** Sight Seeing / Relax / Pleasure / Enjoyment / The Lord has not called us to be the Carnival Cruise Line Ship The Petal FBC but instead he has clearly called us to be the USS Petal FBC

A battleship is made for battle, ready for battle, designed for battle, though there are moments of pleasure and enjoyment because they can sail and see them same places, but the focus is different.