

Abundant Life Church
Pastor Steve Finton
September 10, 2017

Series: ***Roleplay***
Title: ***Acting Out***

After a while, role-playing gets old!

Do you feel you are just playing a role called *Christian*?

Matthew 28:18-20 (ICB)

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All power in heaven and on earth is given to me. So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything that I have taught you, and I will be with you always, even until the end of this age.

Is there something in this world that is not a part of God’s authority?

With our authority, we are to go and make disciples.

Acts 1:1-5 (NCV)

To Theophilus. The first book I wrote was about everything Jesus began to do and teach 2 until the day he was taken up into heaven. Before this, with the help of the Holy Spirit, Jesus told the apostles he had chosen what they should do. 3 After his death, he showed himself to them and proved in many ways that he was alive. The apostles saw Jesus during the forty days after he was raised from the dead, and he spoke to them about the kingdom of God. 4 Once when he was eating with them, he told them not to leave Jerusalem. He said, “Wait here to receive the promise from the Father which I told you about. 5 John baptized people with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

Without the Holy Spirit we roleplay the part of Christian.

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

A witness is one who tells what he has seen and heard.

The older we get the colder we seem to get towards people

The Ephesian Christians were doctrinally sound, but spiritually dead.

There is always more to God than we can understand.

Isaiah 55:8

His ways are not our ways...

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We are programmed to be materialistic.

Two themes of the book of Acts:

Theme #1: Christians, in the 1st century were tuned into Christ.

Theme #2: All these Christians needed was God's power to come upon them!

Are we tuned in to Christ? Are we plugged into the power he offers each of us?

Ephesians 3:10-11 (NLT)

God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Acts 1:16 (NLT)

"Brothers," he said, "the Scriptures had to be fulfilled concerning Judas, who guided those who arrested Jesus. This was predicted long ago by the Holy Spirit, speaking through King David."

Acts 1:23-26 (NLT)

So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. Then they all prayed, "O Lord, you know every heart. Show us which of these men you have chosen as an apostle to replace Judas in this ministry, for he has deserted us and gone where he belongs." Then they cast lots, and Matthias was selected to become an apostle with the other eleven.