

Church Growth Methods in Acts

Category	Methods
Reliance on God	Prayer (1:14, 24; 2:42; 4:24-31; 5:6; 6:4; 12:5, 12; 13:3; 14:23; 16:25; 20:36; 21:5; 28:8); Being filled with the Holy Spirit (2:2-13, 38; 4:8, 31; 7:55; 10:44-48; 11:24; 13:9, 52; 19:2-6); Praising God (2:47; 3:8-9; 16:25); Glorifying God (3:11-14; 4:21; 10:46; 11:18; 13:48(?); 21:20); Obedying God (4:19-20; 5:29; 8:26; 9:10-17; 10:19-29; 13:2-3; 16:6-10; 12:19); Fearing God (9:31); Going on in the comfort of the Holy Spirit (9:31); Fasting (13:2-3; 14:23); Ministering to the Lord (e.g., worshipping) (13:2); Facing persecution and persevering (14:3, 20a; 16:4(?)); Commending new churches ministries/leaders to the Lord (14:23, 26); Singing hymns of praise (16:25); Not counting own life as important (20:24; 21:1)
Building up Believers in Spiritual Maturity ("Inreach")	Teaching/preaching for edification (1:15-22; 2:42; 5:21-5, 42; 11:26; 13:1; 14:22; 15:35; 18:11; 20:20); Disciplining errant believers (5:1-11); Laying hands on for receiving the Holy Spirit (8:17; 9:17; 19:6); Laying hands on for consecration to ministry (5:6; 13:3); Building up new converts (9:27); Encouraging/strengthening (11:23; 13:43; 14:22; 15:32, 41; 16:40; 18:23); Following up churches (9:32; 14:21; 15:36, 41; 16:1-5; 18:23); Seeking theologically true and culturally relevant solutions (15:2-30; 16:3); Confessing sins and disclosing practices (19:18); Destroying occult objects (19:19); Maintaining culturally important traditions(?) (18:18; 21:21-26); Giving testimony as a form of witnessing (22:1-21; 26:2-29); Being a model for other believers (20:18-35)
Administrative	Selecting leaders (1:23-26; 14:23); Reporting to a local church (4:23; 11:2-18; 12:17; 14:27; 15:4; 18:22(?); 21:19); Delegating tasks (6:2-6; 13:2-3; 14:23; 15:2, 22; 19:22; 20:28); Sending leaders to deliver important decisions made by the church (15:22)
Body Life or Community	Gathering together (2:1; 11:26; 14:27; 15:30; 20:1); Devoting to fellowship (2:42; 20:7); Breaking of bread (2:42, 46; 20:7, 11); Sharing all things in common (2:44-45; 4:32-37); Going to the temple/synagogue (church) (3:1; 13:5, 14; 14:1; 16:13; 17:2, 10; 18:4, 19; 19:8); Dealing with questions or problems as a body of believers (6:2; 11:2-18; 15:2-30); Taking up a relief collection (11:29-30)
Experiencing the Supernatural	Speaking in tongues (2:6-11; 10:46; 18:6); Power, signs, and wonders (2:43; 4:33; 5:1-11, 12; 6:8; 8:6-13; 10:44-46; 13:8-12; 14:3; 15:12; 16:16-18; 19:11-12; 28:3-6); Healing (3:2-10; 5:15-16; 9:34, 40-42; 14:8-10; 20:7-12; 28:8-9); Feelings of awe, wonder, amazement (2:43; 3:10-12; 12:16); Prophecy (11:28; 13:1; 15:32; 18:6; 21:4(?), 10-11; 27:21-26); Guidance by visions (10:1-48; 16:10; 18:9-11; 27:22-26)
The Work of the Ministry (Outreach)	Group evangelism (or preaching to unbelievers) (2:14-41; 3:12-4:2; 4:8-12, 31, 33; 5:25, 42; 7:1-53; 8:4, 5-12, 25, 40; 9:20-22; 10:34-48; 11:19-21; 12:38-9; 13:5, 15-42, 44-49; 14:1, 15, 21; 16:10, 13; 17:2-4, 17-18, 22-32; 18:4-5, 8, 19; 19:1-7, 8-10; 20:20-21; 21:28; 21:40-22:21; 24:24-25; 25:23-26:29; 28:16-24, 30-31); House-to-house evangelism (2:46-7(?); 5:42; 11:20; 16:32; 20:20); Baptizing converts (2:38, 41; 8:12, 16, 38; 9:18; 10:47-48; 16:15, 33; 18:8; 19:5); Exhorting to salvation (2:40; 14:15); Debating truth (using reason, in the power of the Holy Spirit) (6:10; 9:22, 29; 17:2-3, 17; 18:28; 19:8-9); Rebuking the "religious" (7:51-53; 8:18-24; 13:9-11, 46-47, 51; 23:1-5); Personal evangelism (8:26-39); Spreading the word of God (or the word of God growing) (12:24; 13:49; 18:20); Contextualizing the message (17:16-31); "Shaking the dust of the feet off" at those who refuse to hear (13:51; 18:6; 19:9(?))
Fruit of the Holy Spirit	Confidence (4:13; 9:28; 14:3); Rejoicing in suffering (5:41); Forgiving enemies (7:60); Refusing to accept money as payment for giving true spiritual power (8:18-24); Not giving a bribe (24:26); Rejecting the attempts of others to worship the believer (10:26; 14:11-18); Being full of faith (11:24); Being filled with joy (2:46; 13:52); Living holy lives (5:12-13; 6:15; 7:60)
Strategic Thinking	Keeping priorities straight (6:2-6; 18:5); Fleeing (escaping) persecution (8:1; 9:21-5, 30; 12:17; 14:6, 20b; 17:10; 14, 17); Investigating reports (11:22-23); Working in teams (10:45; 12:25; 13:5, 13; 15:22, 39-40; 20:4); Sending out laborers (13:3); Following a specific plan (13:46; 17:2); Writing letters (15:22-23; 21:25); Claiming legal rights (16:35-40; 22:24-29; 23:12-23; 24:10-21; 25:8-12); Utilizing public facilities (17:17, 19-22; 18:28; 19:9, 19(?)); Targeting leading centres and trade or travel (16:12); Reaching opinion leaders (8:9-24(?), 26-39; 13:12; 16:14; 17:12; 26:24-29)