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## Discovering Our Role in Sharing God's Grace The Unexplainable Church: Reigniting the Mission of the Early Believers

**Chicago**, **IL** – Do you believe God has called you to a unique purpose? Has He given you a divine invitation? Do you wonder what your invitation holds- or maybe having difficulty discovering it? The truth is all believers have been chosen by the Holy Spirit for a special work, a mission of grace to be pursued in connection with believers around the world as part of Christ's church.

"The wonder of the Holy Spirit is that while He calls us individually to live unexplainable lives, He works collectively through the body, bidding the realization of the unexplainable church," says Erica

Wiggenhorn, author of the new Bible study, *The Unexplainable Church: Reigniting the Mission of the Early Believers* (Moody Publishers, June 2017). "The early believers understood their interconnectedness to one another. They found it inconceivable to fulfill the call of Christ apart from each other as members of the Christian church at large."

In her second title in Moody Publishers' Bible study line for women, Wiggenhorn, a Bible teacher, speaker, and founder of Every Life Ministries in Phoenix, begins where her last study, *An Unexplainable Life*, which covers the first half of Acts, finished. Guiding readers through the second half of Acts, Wiggenhorn looks in-depth at Paul's missionary journeys, how the early church supported him, his ministry to the Gentiles throughout the Roman Empire, imprisonment, and his trip to Rome, all while urging women to live out the mission of the church—sharing the amazing grace of God.



Designed for small groups, churches, as well as individual study, *The Unexplainable Church* includes ten weeks of lessons, five per week, and features a daily Scripture passage (which women are encouraged to read aloud), commentary from Wiggenhorn, and in-depth, interactive questions. Wiggenhorn's hope is that this study would ignite the awe and wonder of God's grace in each reader and help them discover all that God has for them in living out the mission of the unexplainable church.

"The early believers held one mission: sharing the grace available through Jesus Christ," says Wiggenhorn. "This mission united people of different races, different religious practices, political affiliations, ethnic traditions, and social classes. This mission, the kingdom of Jesus Christ, turned the world upside down. And it is our mission today: to share the powerful, life-altering grace of the Lord. The question is, will we accept it?"

Throughout the study, Wiggenhorn guides women as they learn about unexplainable grace, the ways of God, His riches, protection, simplicity, and community through the life and ministry of Paul and the early church. She encourages women to surrender, resolving to follow Jesus wherever He may lead, and to realize that the unexplainable church needs them just as they need the church to fulfill the calling Christ has given them.

"The story of the unexplainable church heralds the atoning power of Christ and the power of His gospel over all sin and death," says Wiggenhorn. "It prevails against injustice, racism, greed, evil, jealousy, economic disparity, corruption, and hate—along with every sin that seeks to destroy it. The one who conquered sin and death through the tremendous tragedy of the cross and the triumph of the resurrection leads the unexplainable church both now and in the ages to come. Our mission as believers in Jesus is to spread the message that God's grace is greater than all. And for others to see its working in our lives."

## **About the Author**



**Erica Wiggenhorn** is the founder of Every Life Ministries, bringing you the truths of Scripture to transform your life. By digging deeply into God's Word, Every Life Ministries encourages you to discover your unique purpose, accept God's promises, and live by His power. Erica is the author of two Bible studies including *An Unexplainable Life: Recovering the Wonder and Devotion of the Early Church*, and *The Unexplainable Church: Reigniting the Mission of the Early Believers* (both Moody Publishers).

Erica serves on the women's ministry leadership team for her church and regularly teaches in various venues. She's also taught women in the Arizona State Prison system, and overseas. She loves to bring God's Word to anyone who'll listen!

A graduate and post-graduate of Azusa Pacific University, Erica lives in Phoenix with her husband, Jonathan, and their two children, Eliana and Nathan.

For more information, along with free resources that coincide with the study, visit ericawiggenhorn.com.

## **Suggested Discussion Questions**

- 1. Your first Bible study *An Unexplainable Life*, released last year, and covered the first 12 chapters of Act. Now, as you move into the next section of Acts, how does this study differ?
- 2. We often talk about the early church but who actually made up the early church?
- 3. What are some of the biggest lessons we can learn from the early church?
- 4. What do you mean by the unexplainable church?
- 5. What was really at the heart of the growth of the early church?
- 6. How can we align the calling we believe God has placed on our life with the mission of the church?
- 7. You believe that the unexplainable church will not happen without the presence of unexplainable women. How can women find their place in the church today?
- 8. One of your goals with this study was to write something that went deep versus many other studies that stay surface-level. Why is it so critical for women to study theology in-depth?
- 9. What does it look like to live together in the power of the Spirit?
- 10. What were some of the struggles experienced by the early church?
- 11. Barnabas is a key player in Acts. What do we know about Barnabas?
- 12. What was unique about the leadership of the church in Antioch?
- 13. In Acts 13, we see Paul step into the fullness of his calling as an apostle to the Gentiles. How did this change the trajectory of the church?
- 14. Paul is accused of creating division between Gentiles and Jews in Acts. How is this accusation unfair?
- 15. What opposition did Paul and Barnabas face as they spread the news of Christ?
- 16. What are some of the key events that take place in the second half of Acts?
- 17. How does God grow His Kingdom?