

A RECIPE FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE CHURCH / *Acts 1:26*

In Acts 1, Luke was setting the stage *for* and previewing the material *of* the balance of the book of Acts. He included many of the ingredients for the successful spread of the gospel message:

People	People have always been God's plan for the delivery of his message (Acts 1:2, 8, 11, 13-14, 21-26).
Prayer	Prayer was the first, best step in every decision of the early church (Acts 1:14, 24-26).
Preparation	The apostles demonstrated their knowledge of and belief in the importance of the Scriptures. God's Word should be learned, trusted, obeyed, and applied to life situations (Acts 1:1-4, 7-8, 16, 20).
Power	Christ's promised Holy Spirit power forms the basis of the church's ability to accomplish great things for him (Acts 1:8).
Promise	The church must always live in the conscious reality of a returning Savior who will come back in the same way he departed (Acts 1:9-11).
Pattern	Our task is not so much to be preachers as it is to be witnesses. A witness tells what he or she has seen and heard. We speak the news and spread the news (Acts 1:8, 11).