

THE SPREADING FLAME

In a relatively short period of time (about four centuries) Christianity went from being the faith of a handful of Jews, to the dominant religion in the Mediterranean world. One man has called it, “The Spreading Flame.”

The story of the first days of the Christian movement, found in “The Acts of the Apostles,” is fascinating. It begins in the days following the resurrection of Jesus and tells how Samaritans, Romans and Greeks joined with a small band of Jews to create a compelling God movement. We read how new Christians fed the poor and cared for the widows and orphans in their neighborhoods.

We will use this small book as the basis of our 40 Days Bible Study, preaching series and our Bible Reading. To assist you in your Bible reading we offer this devotional book written by members of Bethel and some of our program staff.

For best results read the passage of scripture before you read what the writers said about it. Take a moment to ask, “What is this about,” before you read what the devotion says it’s about.

Lent can be a great time of renewal for all of us. It can also assist us as we think about ways to share the good news of God. Perhaps our entire church family will become a part of the 21st Century version of “The Spreading Flame.”

--Pastor Bill White

