

ACT

Accelerating Church Transformation
ONE CHURCH AT A TIME...



Endtime Acceleration

Current headlines of all sorts suggest our world is hurtling toward a grand apocalyptic conclusion. From natural disasters, to rampant immorality, to political unrest—it seems clear to me, the final scenes prophesied in the Bible are just ahead. Which suggests an urgent need to accelerate our efforts.

So with that thought in mind, we decided to celebrate the one year anniversary of ACT with a major refresh. From a new banner up top, to double the content in each issue. And several new features—such as our “From the Front” section, with tips on church growth. And a new section for easy-to-share print resources from our online store. It’s our hope this added material will just make this newsletter even more valuable to you.

We’ve even updated the name—to better summarize our mission: *Accelerating Church Transformation*. Please join us in praying for a great revival to spread through our countless precious churches. And even more, that that revival movement will, well, accelerate!



Free Class: Project Hope

Does your life feel hectic, and hurried? Get ready to discover vital keys to experiencing more of God's joy in your life by freeing yourself from those hidden things that keep you from Him...

To share this class with others, or to sign up yourself, please visit the link below. This class is free all this month, so help us to get the news out. This is the perfect gift for frazzled believers!

<http://fast.st/act/hope>

September 1, 2023

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Endtime Acceleration

The urgency of the hour is a call to accelerate.

Free Class: Project HOPE

Learn how to find greater joy in the Christian life.

From the Front

Is your ministry languishing? Try a ministry sprint!

August Recap

See what we’ve been posting over at The Edge...

TruthStarters

This powerful evangelistic resource is back...

Weekend Workshops

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Online Store

Check out all our new and upcoming resources!

Contact Info

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For a PDF version of this newsletter to share with friends, or to view back issues, please visit us at:

<http://fast.st/act>



From the Front

Welcome to a new feature in ACT, a monthly tip for growing “explosive” churches.

Every so often, it's important to rethink how we do ministry--and ask God for ideas about how to take things to the next level. It's easy to become complacent, and lose our sense of urgency about finding ways to reach more people. To keep FAST moving forward, I follow a process I like to call Ministry Sprints. Here's what that looks like:

1. First up, take some time to dream about what could be. Brainstorm a long list of possibilities. Linger at this step until you have some bold ideas that get you excited. That usually requires real breakthroughs, so aim high. And don't move on, till God gives you something inspiring.
2. Second comes careful planning. Start analyzing how the various ideas fit together. Which ones will have the greatest impact. Consider the order in which they will need to be completed. What the costs will be, and how to generate the revenues needed to sustain those plans.
3. Third comes mapping that plan onto a timeline. Assign each step a date on your calendar, and set a target date for completing the whole project. Sprints like this normally run 3-4 months. I was so excited about my most recent plan, I squished it down to a highly ambitious four weeks.
4. And last, but definitely not least--implement the plan. This whole past month I've been racing to keep up with my timeline, knowing each piece had to be completed on its due date to reach my end goal on time.

But praise God, I made it! Thanks to lots of great help, I reached my sprint goals right on time (barely). You can read more of what that plan involved at this link:

<http://fast.st/act/405>

If you find your ministry languishing, try this process. See if God won't give you some bold ideas to take your ministry to the next level!

August Recap

*Here's a quick recap of what's happening over at our weekly newsletter, renamed *The Edge*.*

Last month I wrote a whole series of memos on the core spokes of discipleship, filled with insights from the last few chapters of that old classic, *Steps to Christ*. Sometimes thought overly simplistic--its insights are actually remarkably profound! Feel free to catch up on any articles you missed:

A Knowledge of God - August 7

Is there more to a knowledge of God than what we usually think? <http://fast.st/act/401>

The Privilege of Prayer - August 14

Is there a secret to prayer we've missed all along? <http://fast.st/act/402>

What to Do With Doubt - August 21

Can Bible study actually be hazardous to your soul? <http://fast.st/act/403>

Rejoicing in the Lord - August 28

Witnessing is not about how many we win, but how brightly we shine. <http://fast.st/act/404>

Next month, I'll be posting a series of articles on unusual ministries from the past with huge potential for the future.

Most of these are things we've done in the past as a church quite successfully, but have somehow neglected, or even forgotten. Perhaps it's time to revisit these old ideas with a fresh pair of glasses.

To get these weekly articles please subscribe:

<http://fast.st/act/subscribe>



TruthStarters

Learn more about the relaunch of an exciting ministry tool at FAST called TruthStarters.

To coincide with our big upgrades to ACT, we're excited to announce the relaunch of TruthStarters. Basically, we provide you with a template for an evangelistic newsletter you can send out every week to the people on your interest list. And now we've added powerful interest tracking to your links! Wow...

Many churches run lots of local events. And some even collect contact information. But most do not have a good follow-up system in place to keep those interests engaged, and growing.

That's where TruthStarters comes in. Just stop by once a week, grab our newsletter template, and cut and paste it right into your newsletter software. Thanks to our great team of helpers, we've got more than 52 issues ready to go with resources from ministries you know and love! Never let another interest wax cold...

<http://fast.st/act/truthstarters>

Support our Mission

Want to help support the ministry of FAST? This newsletter only captures some of the many things our team is doing. To accelerate faster, however, we need more staff.

If you would like to help us reach all the goals we've set for this year, we invite you to send a special one time gift to help us out. Thank you for your kind generosity! Get a free print copy of ACT when you do. :)

<http://fast.st/act/giving>

Weekend Workshops

Would you like to have FAST come and do a weekend worship at your church? I've been super focused on building our online school these last few years—and have declined most requests to do any traveling. But the Lord has been convicting me of the need to start doing more in person church training.

I know how exhausting the life of an itinerant preacher can be. I did that for many years! But I'm open to considering a limited number of appointments for the new year to do a full weekend training event at your church. I'm calling it the ACT Workshop, and some of the topics covered include:

*Endtime Bible Memorization
The Explosion Formula
Unleashed Ministry Model*

So if you are interested in getting on our calendar for 2024, please reach out to us at editor@fast.st for scheduling details. Priority will go to Training Center churches. I'm also open to other events such as campmeetings and ministerial retreats.

Upcoming Events

Want an ACT sneak peek at what's coming up? Here's a short list of some of the things we've got planned for October. Contact us for information about how to start planning your promotion of one of these events:

Moral Machinery. Using the sanctuary to understand the human mind. Back as a one week class through the month of October.
<http://fast.st/act/fruit>

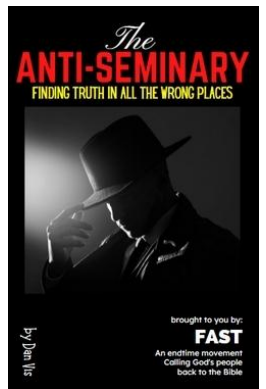
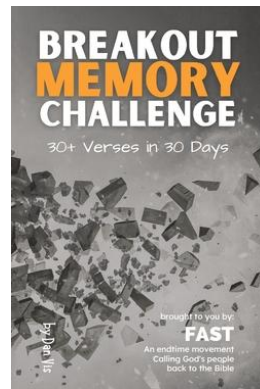
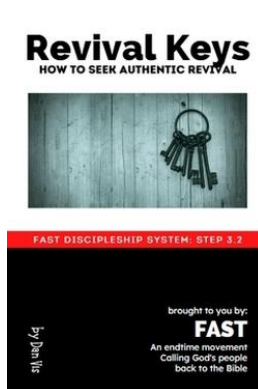
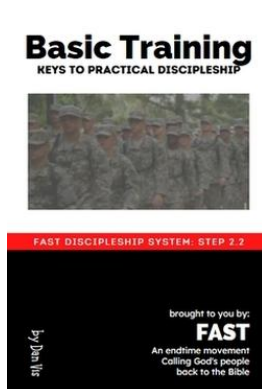
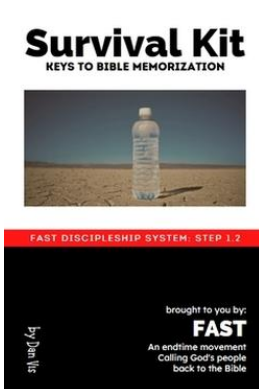
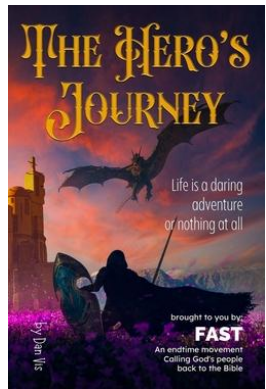
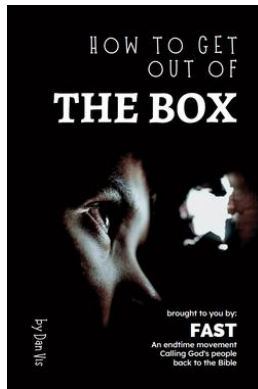
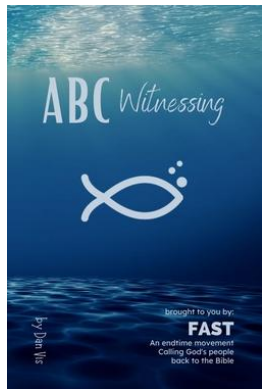
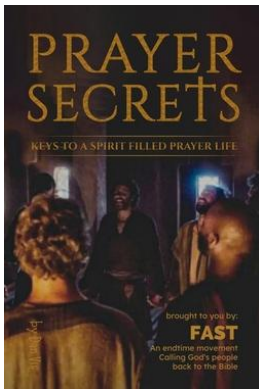
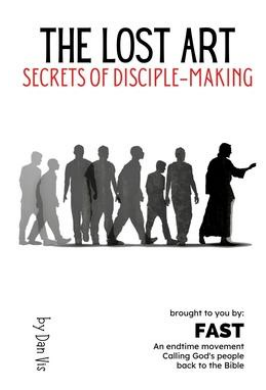
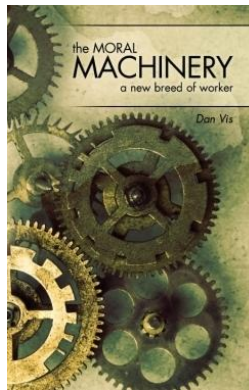
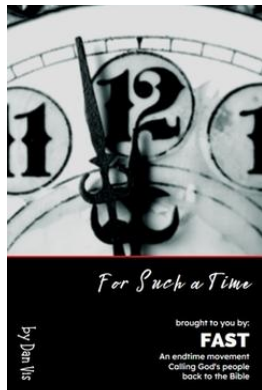
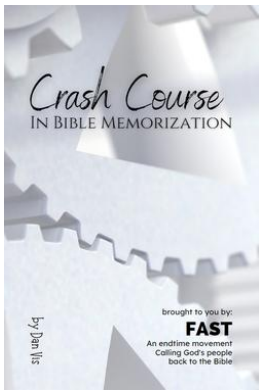
Biblical Counseling. An exciting, all new training track on keys to healing the heart, and helping others heal too! Based on the Moral Machinery. Launches October 22.
<http://fast.st/act/counseling>

As always, FAST is a hopping place with all kinds of fresh resources available, ranging from study guides, memos, verse sets, digital tools, sermons, and more. Stop by anytime:

<http://fast.st>

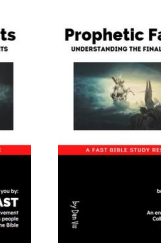
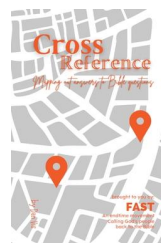
Online Store

We've been working hard to get all our classes and study guides converted into handy, easy-to-share book formats. Please consider grabbing one for yourself, and one for a friend. Better still, grab a case for your small group or Bible class—and get big discounts! Use the link below to order or find us on Amazon.



Coming Soon:

These titles are ready to go and will be available soon in our store:



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