

Focus Points

"Focus Points" are short activities that draw students into the lesson. They take only a few minutes to do. Many can be used as quick-start activities to engage the students and focus their attention at the beginning of class. Others may fit well during the lesson to reinforce a point and drive it home. Still others may serve as good wrap-up activities. "Focus Points" come in many forms. Choose and use them as you see fit.

Focus Point – The Jerusalem Conference

Amos 9:11-12 (Septuagint) *In that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and will rebuild the ruins of it, and will set up the parts thereof that have been broken down, and will build it up as in the ancient days: that the remnant of men, and all the Gentiles upon whom my name is called, may earnestly seek me, saith the Lord who does all these things.*

Give everyone a blank file card. Have your students open their Bibles and read Amos 9:11-12. Tell them to (1) write down where these verses (Septuagint version) are cited in the New Testament, and (2) tell why they are cited there.

Allow four or five minutes for them to answer the question. Then discuss their answers. What important issue is being addressed at the Jerusalem Conference in Acts 15? Why would citing an Old Testament prophet like Amos carry weight in this discussion?

If necessary, remind your students that they need to use cross-references.