

10/26

HOME GROUP GUIDE

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

LISTEN

Listen to the sermon and read through the main passages(s)



REFLECT

Prayerfully answer the questions below



DISCUSS

Meet with your group to discuss



RESPOND

Apply the truth of God's word to your life

BACKGROUND:

Acts 1 shows us that Jesus' ministry continued beyond the Gospels. The ongoing work begun by his life, death, resurrection, and ascension is now carried out through the Holy Spirit. Here, the disciples expect the immediate restoration of the nation of Israel, but Jesus gives them a global mandate. He tells them, "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

As this pattern unfolds throughout the book of Acts, the movement of the Spirit that began at Pentecost in Acts 2 spreads despite persecution to Judea and Samaria and—through the conversion of Saul—leads to a missionary movement to the nations. The same Spirit still moves today. He calls us as the Church to pray, cross barriers, and go wherever Jesus sends.

OPEN:

1. Share a time when you felt "out of your depth" but still succeeded thanks to someone else's help. How did that experience influence willingness to rely on outside help?

REFLECT:

2. Read Acts 1:1-8. What were the disciples expecting from the kingdom Jesus established? How did God's plan differ from these expectations?

3. When Jesus said, "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth," how would the disciples have understood those different regions? What would be some modern-day equivalents?

4. Read Acts 1:12-14. What actions did the disciples take while waiting for Jesus’ promise to be fulfilled? What do these actions reveal about their reliance on God’s help to accomplish their assigned task?

APPLY:

5. How frequently do you ask God about his plans for your life, finances, time, and work? What might be some reasons for not being more proactive in this? What lessons from this week’s message inspire you to engage more actively in these kinds of prayers?

6. What does it look like to live as a witness for Jesus right where you are (home, work, school, neighborhood)? Share one specific action you’ll take in this area.

7. As you get ready to close, select 1-2 individuals, families, or organizations from each of the three categories below. Have different members of your group take a moment to pray specifically for each of these. You can learn more about our missions partners at fellowshipjackson.com/missions.

Local Partners:

- Scarlet Rope Project
- The Read Team
- RIFA
- Young Life Jackson
- Child Evangelism Fellowship
- The Dream Center
- Birth Choice
- Area Relief Ministries
- Keep My Hood Good
- Thelma Barker Elementary School
- Young Lives Jackson

Domestic Partners:

- Tyler Hardin (Bowling Green, KY)
- Anna Draper (FCA Nashville)
- Jake Amos (Young Life Knoxville)
- Redeemer Church in Vermont
- Mission to Missionaries/Edenridge

International Partners:

- Dan Lancaster (Cornerstone International)
- Bold Hope Orphanage
- Hope for Haiti Orphanage
- The Alsobrooks (Japan)
- El Ayudante (Nicaragua)
- Mission of Hope
- The Hollands (Rome International Church)
- The Karmacharyas (Transformation Nepal)
- Alexandra Ward (YWAM Norway)
- The Browns (Bible translation in Mozambique)

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