

A Kingdom Mission
Acts 1:1-11

Getting Started

- ❖ Someone in some way witnessed to you about Jesus in order for you to become a Christian. Who blessed you in this way so that you ultimately became a Christian?

Key Ideas for Discussion

1. What is the relationship between Jesus' Ascension and the Kingdom of God? (v.6-9)
2. How do Jesus' instructions connect us to the Kingdom of God and the promise of the Spirit?

Takeaway Truth: The task of the church is to make the invisible kingdom visible through faithful Christian living and witness-bearing. (J.I. Packer)

Digging Deeper

- ❖ Revisit the sermon and sermon outline. Read the sermon text and answer the following:
 - How would you answer the question in the first point of the sermon? How about the second point of the sermon?
 - The Apostles were thinking of the Kingdom in an unhealthy and inaccurate way. How do Christians today do the same today?
 - While the Apostles were curious about the Kingdom, Jesus wanted them to understand something much more important. What was that? (Hint: Lk.24:44-45)
 - What evidence is there that the disciples did not understand the kingdom that Jesus set up?
 - The primary way that Jesus equipped the apostles was the promise of the Holy Spirit. What was going to be the result of the Holy Spirit coming on them?
 - Jerry pointed to two of our Church Values as examples of how Acts 1:8 is in the DNA of our church. What were those two values and do you see our church living out those values or not? Which do you think we do "better" than the other?
- ❖ Read Matt. 24:29-32 and 1 Thess. 4:13-18 along with Acts 1:9-11.
 - In Acts 1:10-11 the Angels told the Apostles that Jesus would return in the same way as He ascended. Make three columns with each text as the title of a column. List similar elements that appear in all three passages, then those elements (details) that occur in 2 of the passages, then details that are only in 1 of the passages and are unique to it.
 - Put all of these various elements and details together. What do they teach us about Jesus' Second Coming? What do they NOT teach us that you might wish they did?
 - What is the purpose of these passages? What should they do for us as Believers?

Apply It!

- ❖ What does the word "witness" mean to you as used in verse 8? Is this something you embrace or struggle with? As a group discuss your victories and defeats in this area.

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- ❖ Is there someone in your life you would like to see God use you to witness to and bring to Christ?
- ❖ What was your reaction to the idea we all start out as Enemies that Jesus must defeat?
- ❖ How does the gospel convince you that you are no longer an enemy of Jesus?

Think About It!

The risen Lord's mandate to mission begins to be fulfilled in the Acts. Indeed, as many commentators have pointed out, Acts 1:8 is a kind of 'Table of Contents' for the book. Chapters 1-7 describe events in Jerusalem, chapter 8 mentions the scattering of the disciples 'throughout Judea and Samaria' (8:1), and goes on to record the evangelization of a Samaritan city by Philip (8:5-24) and of 'many Samaritan villages' by the apostles Peter and John (8:25), while the conversion of Saul in chapter 9 leads on in the rest of the book to his missionary expeditions, and finally to his journey to Rome. For Christ's kingdom, while not incompatible with patriotism, tolerates no narrow nationalisms. He rules over an international community in which race, nation, rank and sex are no barriers to fellowship. And when his kingdom is consummated at the end, the countless redeemed company will be seen to be drawn 'from every nation, tribe, people and language.'" (John Stott)

Note from Pastor Jerry: For this year's CG questions, group resources and Bible studies from John Stott (Acts Seeing the Spirit at Work), John MacArthur (MacArthur Bible Studies: Acts), Jack Hayford (Kingdom Power) and Max Lucado (Life Lessons from the Book of Acts) are used in addition to original material.

WORSHIP RESOURCE

September 26, 2021 | 18th Sunday after Pentecost

WORSHIP SONGS

WE CROWN YOU (ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME)

Words by Edward Perronet, 1779 / Music by Oliver Holden, 1793
Additional chorus by Paxson Jeancake, 2015

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate, fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the Fall.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.

We crown you, we crown you Lord of all.
We crown you, we crown you Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall.
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

SHOUT HOSANNA

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Brett Younker,
Kristian Stanfill, and Ed Cash, 2015

To the King of glory and light, all praises; to the only Giver of life,
our Maker, the gates are opened wide; we worship You.

Come see what love has done, amazing; He bought us with His blood,
our Savior; the cross has overcome; we worship You.

Shout Hosanna, Jesus, He saves. Shout Hosanna,
He rose from the grave; come and lift Him up, Hosanna.

Now let the lost be found, forgiven; death could not hold Him down,
He's risen. So let the saints cry out; we worship You, we worship You.

The same power that rolled the stone away, the same power alive in
us today; King Jesus, we call upon Your Name, no other name.

BE THOU MY VISION

Ancient Irish Poem | Traditional Irish Melody

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me,
save that thou art. Thou my best thought by day or by night;
Waking or sleeping, thy presence, my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee
and thou with me, Lord. Thou my great Father, I thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise; Thou mine inheritance,
now and always. Thou and thou only, first in my heart:
High King of heaven, my treasure, thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won; May I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

BEHOLD HIM

Words and Music by Paul Baloche and Mitch Wong, 2019

He who was before there was light, walked across the pages of time.
He who made every living thing, behold Him.
He who heard humanity's cry, left His throne to wake as a child.
He became like the least of us, behold Him.

Jesus, Son of God, Messiah, the Lamb, the roaring Lion.
Oh, be still and behold Him. Jesus, Alpha and Omega,
our God the risen Savior. Oh, be still and behold Him.

He who dined with sinners and saints, healed the blind,
the lost and the lame, even now He is in our midst. Behold Him.
He who chose a criminal's end, paid with blood to settle our debt,
buried death as He rose to life, behold Him.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty. Jesus, you're my hope and stay.

RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER

Words and Music by Paxson Jeancake, 2010

At the right hand of the Father sits the risen, ascended Son.
In returning he is bearing scars of grace and scars of love.

Open up the heavens, let us see just a glimpse of holy majesty.
Like Stephen, to behold you with our eyes; risen One,
ascended Lord on high. Risen One ascended Lord on high.

At the right hand of the Father sits the holy Lamb of God.
Death defeated, he interceded; pleads for us now from his throne.

At the right hand of the Father, standing now to welcome home,
Sons and daughters, every martyr, not ashamed to be called his own.

DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 23; 2 Kings 17:1-18; Acts 9:36-43; Luke 5:1-11
MONDAY | Ps. 73; 2 Kings 17:24-41; 1 Cor. 7:25-31; Matthew 6:25-34
TUESDAY | Ps. 12; 2 Chron. 29:3-30:27; 1 Cor. 7:32-40; Matt. 7:1-12
WEDNESDAY | Ps. 134; 2 Kings 18:9-25; 1 Cor. 8:1-13; Matt. 7:13-21
THURSDAY | Ps. 116; 2 Kings 18:28-37; 1 Cor. 9:1-15; Matt. 7:22-29
FRIDAY | Ps. 40; 2 Kings 19:1-20; 1 Corinthians 9:16-27; Matt. 8:1-17
SATURDAY | Ps. 63; 2 Kings 19:21-36; 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Matt. 8:18-27

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

Raise us up, O Lord, for it is you alone who restores life and health to
the suffering and to those who wander from the truth. By your grace,
may we offer powerful and effective prayers for one another and the
world, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



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