

Witnesses Message 1

Perry Duggar September 20, 2020

Outline

"... And you will be My witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere..." Acts 1:8 (NLT)

A. Introduction

(Acts 1:1-2. C/R: John 16:28; 20:17; 1 Timothy 3:16)

Title: The Acts of the ______ (Which ones? _____& ____)

Author: _____ Recipient: Theophilus

Purpose: Report spread of Christianity throughout Roman world.

Date: A.D.

B. A witness needs / requires... (Acts 1:3-11)

1. Proof of ______. (Acts 1:3. C/R: Luke 24:29-43; John 20:19; Romans 4:25; 1 Corinthians 15:5-8,14-19) 2. Power from the _____. (Acts 1:4-8a. C/R: Ezekiel 36:25-27; Matthew 10:20; John 14:26; Romans 8:16)

3. Purpose to _____. (Acts 1:8b. C/R: Matthew 28:19-20; Romans 1:16; 1 Peter 3:15; 1 John 1:1-3)

4. Promise of _____. (Acts 1:9-11. C/R: Zechariah 14:4; Luke 24:50-51; John 5:28-29; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-16; Hebrews 9:27-28)

Answers: A. Apostles, Peter, Paul, Luke, 64 **B1**. resurrection **2**. Spirit **3**. pursue **4**. return **Resource Information:** Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.



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Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit <u>brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups</u>.

Conversation Starter

Have you ever traveled someplace where you did not speak the language? What happened?

Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Ask God to help you experience His love and hear His voice as you reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read <u>Acts 1:1-11</u>.

- 1. How does the book of Acts pick up where the gospel of Luke left off (Luke 24:45-53)?
- 2. How do you respond to the idea that Jesus is a person who can be known and loved, obeyed and followed, a person who continues to act within the real world?
- 3. Why did Jesus tell the disciples to wait (vs. 4)? Are we supposed to wait like they did, or does Jesus have different instructions for us? Explain.
- 4. What did the disciples think would happen when the Holy Spirit came (vs. 6)? How was this different from what Jesus had in mind (vs. 7-8)?
- 5. In a general sense, what does it mean to be a witness (vs. 8)? Besides convincing people to believe what we believe, what are other ways to be a witness to Jesus?
- 6. Imagine you were there, looking into the sky (<u>vs. 9-11</u>). How do you think the followers of Jesus were affected by the promise that He would return? What impact does the promise of Christ's return have on your life?

- 7. How has becoming a Christian changed the way you live? If you're not a Christian, what questions or hesitation do you have?
- 8. <u>Verse 14</u> says the disciples were *constantly united in prayer*. What do you think drove them to this intense time of prayer? In what ways does prayer prepare you to talk with others about Jesus?
- 9. God has called His followers to tell people near and far about the Good News of Jesus. Who's already in your path who needs to hear about Jesus? How are you supporting missionaries who share Jesus with others who are far away?

Spiritual Practice

[Spiritual Practices are steps we take to allow the Holy Spirit to work in our lives. These aren't meant to be one-time actions, but practices that become a natural part of our lives.]

Name one way the Spirit of Jesus has worked in your life. Ask God to reveal someone who would benefit from hearing this experience.

Memory Verse

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will beMy witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughoutJudea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.Acts 1:8 (NLT)

Daily Reading

Day 1: <u>Romans 10:5-15</u>	Day 4: <u>John 14:1-7</u>
Day 2: Luke 24:39-43	Day 5: <u>1 Corinthians 15:5-8</u> , <u>14-19</u>
Day 3: Ezekiel 36:25-27	

Prepare for Next Sunday

Sunday, September 27, we'll continue the series titled *Church Empowered*. To prepare, read <u>Acts 2</u>.



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