

“Acts”

Accompanies the 1/23/21 Sermon

Acts 1:6 – 14

The book of Acts tells the story of how a few people became a movement that would radically change the world. It is a story of how the Church was born; how the Holy Spirit empowered and directed them and how he still does today. Today's verses are filled with information, inspiration, and direction. Amongst its riches are two essential elements of the church: the power of the Spirit and the mission of the Church. Don't let today's passage be lost on ecological debate or historical details. Let it challenge and inspire you.

GETTING STARTED

- How was the highlight of your winter break?
- When you think of the church what thoughts come to mind? What should it be? What is it?

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures together and then use the questions below (or any you wish to add) to discuss the text and unpack its meaning.



Have someone in your group read **Acts: 1-14** (We will focus today's discussion on 6-14)

- What about these verses strikes you?
- What is the larger context of these verses?
- The disciples asked Jesus if he was going to Restore the Kingdom of Israel. Why were they asking this?
- Jesus redirects their questions. What point does he make?
- In v.7 Jesus gave a Pronouncement and a Promise:
 - What was the pronouncement that was that was given?
 - What was the promise that was given?
 - Was this pronouncement and promise for “them and their time” or “for us and all time”?
- Picture yourself during the ascension. What do you think, feel and experience in that moment?

GETTING PRACTICAL

The book of Acts tells the story of how the church spread from just a few people into a global a multiethnic community of Jesus followers. God's plan is to use us to accomplish His work in the world. While the disciples were looking to Him (Jesus), Jesus was calling them. Let's talk about how God is still calling His disciples to accomplish His work.

- 1) **What stood out to you about this week's message on this topic?**
 - a. **Why did you find that so impactful?**
- 2) What does it mean to accomplish the good work of Jesus?
- 3) Being a witness means to be someone that tells the truth. Jesus followers are to be people that tell of His Good News.
 - a. Share a time when you were able to share the good news of Jesus with someone. How did it feel afterwards?
- 4) What are some reasons that we hesitate to be witnesses to people around us?
- 5) Spend a few minutes praying about who God might be asking you to be a witness towards. Maybe that means sharing the gospel with them or inviting them to this group.
 - a. Write their name down
 - b. Share it with the group
 - c. Pray about these names as a group
 - d. Update each other as when there is news to report