

Questions for 011021

Getting to know you

1. Have you ever been called upon to be a witness for someone/ to some event? How about a reference for someone? What was involved in this or what is typically involved in being a witness/reference?

Digging Deeper

Acts is Dr. Luke's sequel to his Gospel, taking up the story where he left off in the book of Luke. Read Luke 24:36–53 to set the stage for the opening to Acts.

1. Read Acts 1:1–11. How was Jesus occupied during the time between his resurrection and his ascension into heaven? How would these things prepare the disciples for his departure?
2. Why couldn't they begin spreading the word of the kingdom of God immediately? What did Jesus mean by "the promise of the Father"? (See John 14:16–17, 25–26 for more background.)
3. What expectation is reflected in the disciples' question in verse 6?
4. Why do you think Jesus told them to wait on the power of the Holy Spirit before they went out on mission? For what purpose will they receive it? What is the scope of their assignment? If this had taken place in Chatham, what places could be substituted for those in verse 8?
5. What happened next? What kinds of reactions might this have produced among the disciples? What do the men in white robes tell the disciples? How would this information have helped the disciples just then? And later?
6. How can it be said that Acts 1:8 an outline for the book of Acts?

Take Home

1. At the beginning we defined witness. In verse 8 the disciples were called to be witnesses to Jesus. How does this call extend to us?
2. Where in our city is there an obvious need for mission? What places are not as obvious, but equally in need?
3. What is your Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, end of the earth? How has God called you to be on mission locally and globally?
4. Do you tend to focus on the local mission or the global mission? What comes easiest for you? Where do you need to grow?
5. In what ways have you successfully engaged the mission of God in the past? What was your experience?
6. What obstacles are holding you back from living on mission today? If you were to talk yourself out of mission, what would be the reasons?

Prayer

Spend some time together praying for the local mission and the global mission. Pray for specific friends and family to know and meet Jesus.