

Small Group and Personal Study Questions Acts 1:1-11 Ascension Sermon by Pastor Chad Johnson Questions by Pastor Rhonda Bare May 12, 2024

The purpose of Small Groups is to draw us:

UPWARD in worship and praise,

INWARD to dwell on God's word and grow in spiritual formation and disciplines, and

OUTWARD to care for each other and beyond our groups and church.

\_\_\_\_\_

What did you hear in Sunday's sermon that was new to you, renewed a conviction of yours or gave you questions to ponder?

Luke opens his historical book to Theophilus by recording the last moments the disciples have with Jesus and their first group decision of replacing Judas. Acts helps the reader see that the mission of God will continue as the Holy Spirit powerfully works through individual lives to advance the gospel, build his kingdom and expand the Church.

## **OPEN**

- 1. Read Acts 1 aloud in at least two different versions of the Bible.
- 2. Has there ever been a time in your life when you felt completely helpless or completely in over your head? What was it and how did you respond?

## REFLECT

- 1. What does Jesus do for the 40 days He is with His followers after His resurrection? Why do you think He chooses this topic to teach on?
- 2. What is your understanding of the Kingdom of God? (Luke 17:20-21; Luke 13:18-20; Mark 1:14-15)
- 3. What does Jesus say will happen to them? When is this going to take place? (Acts 1:4-5)
- 4. What do they ask Jesus? (Vs. 6) Why do you think this is the question they have for Him? What does Jesus say in response?
- 5. Verse 8 is really the thesis of the entire book. Read it out loud then answer the following:
  - A. What are they called to do?
  - B. Where are they called to do it?
  - C. How are they going to be able to do it?

## **APPLY**

- 1. What is the ultimate mission of God? How would you put it in your own words if your friend were to ask you? How would you describe your role as a follower of Jesus in that mission?
- 2. If, as a group you were to dream for a moment, what would it look like for the mission of God to advance through the work of Flourishing Grace?
- 3. What would need to change in our hearts and lives in order for Jesus to advance the kingdom through us?

How can you live what you learned in Acts 1:1-11 in your life this week?