

Small Group & Personal Bible Study

Memory Verse for This Week: Acts 1:8

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Discovery Bible Study Exercise: In your journal or on a piece of paper make three columns and follow these steps:

- Step #1: Write out **Acts 1:8**
- Step #2: Re-write **Acts 1:8** in your own words
- Step #3: Write out something you discover from this passage and how God wants you to respond in obedience to this passage.

Daily Meditation Reading: The Continuing Ministry of Jesus

Day 1: John 3:16-18

Day 2: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Day 3: 1 Timothy 2:3-7

Day 4: 2 Peter 3:3-10

Day 5: Revelation 7:9-10

1. Read through the scriptures listed above. What is the ministry of Jesus Christ?

Jesus makes it clear his ministry is to redeem the lost. To bring the hope of eternal life to man. John 3:16 and 17 show this most vividly. 1 Timothy 4:1 says God wants all men to be saved. 2 Peter 3:9 says He is patient not wanting anyone to perish. God wants people to receive eternal life through Jesus Christ. That was, is, and continues to be the ministry of Jesus Christ. Sure, He was a good teacher and he loved and cared for the needs of people and was an example to us all but His main ministry purpose was to redeem what was lost.

2. What role are we called to or how do we fit into His ministry? (Refer back to 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 and Acts 1:1-11)

Jesus said many times we are to go (Matthew 28:19, Acts 1:8...). We have been chosen (John 15:16) by Christ. We are His ambassadors. (2 Corinthians 5:20). If we do not obey what He is calling us to we are failing to continue His ministry purpose which He has trusted to us. Nothing in life is more important than proclaiming salvation in Jesus Christ.

3. Why do you think God chose us to continue the ministry of Jesus?

Let people share and discuss this question. It is a difficult one to answer. Perhaps only God knows. I do know that when His people live for Him and the message of the cross He is glorified and honored.

4. What do you think it means in Acts 1:8, when Jesus says that we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on us?

I believe the power and presence of the Holy Spirit living in me is the only way we can honor and glorify God with our lives and our testimony. The Holy Spirit speaks truth through us and it is only by the power of God that people accept and believe our message. It is also only by the Holy Spirit that we are moved to proclaim the gospel. In John 6:44 Jesus said, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day."