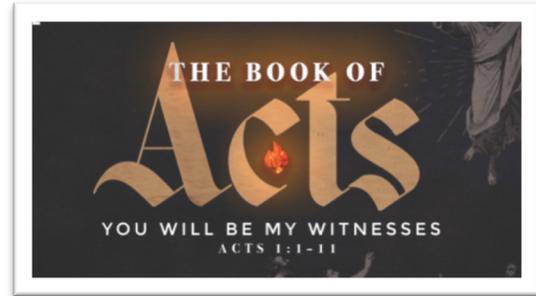


YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES

ACTS 1:1-11 // PASTOR TODD DUGARD
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If we're to fulfill the mission and be witnesses of Jesus Christ to the world, we must believe the proofs (1:1-3), trust the promises (1:4-5), receive the power (1:6-8a), follow the plan (1:8b), and feel the push (1:9-11).

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Your salvation is your irrefutable proof of Christ's resurrection. Each saved person is rescued from darkness and brought into light. The details are different in each life but the theme of salvation is always the same. Your story is your proof and it should be simple, compelling, and clear.

- If you could describe the biggest spiritual change(s) in your life with one short sentence, what would your testimony say?

"I know that Jesus is alive and working in my life because he rescued me from _____ and brought me into _____!"

- What has encouraged you to tell your story? What has held you back?

We may overlook or even take for granted the abilities and resources that are given to help us witness to the gospel in a more compelling way. Think of how you may have been specifically empowered as a sent one.

- What capability (power) has the Holy Spirit given you to assist with delivering the gospel?
- How are your abilities being put to good use in promoting the gospel? How do you see your serving role at church as it fits into the big picture about being witnesses to the risen saviour?

Jesus directs the disciples to be his witnesses close to home and across cultural divides. We are called to this priority despite inconvenience or discomfort. It's a specific principle seen in Acts 1:8 that we described as starting close (Jerusalem), reaching beyond (Samaria), and going far (the end of the Earth).

- What are some commonalities you have with the people who live around you that may help you share your faith in a way they'll understand?
- How do you share your faith with people who know about the biblical worldview but live in a way that is inconsistent with the Scriptures?
- What are some ways a small group of believers could be involved personally with sharing the gospel with people who live with little to no knowledge of the gospel at all?

The angels' comments to the disciples in Acts 1:11 teach us that participating in church requires us get on with the mission! There is no standing around waiting for Jesus to return. We are compelled by God to take the gospel to others and support each other as we give witness to the truth of Jesus' resurrection.

- There were several application possibilities listed at the conclusion of the sermon to give examples of the next step you may need to take. Which of these aspects of being a witness does God's word push you toward?

Become a Christ-follower....

Become a member...

Start serving...

Invite someone to join you in ministry...

Be baptized...

Lead a small group...

Start giving sacrificially...

Share your faith...

- Is there any other part of the Scripture or sermon that is pushing you to share your faith? How will you follow through?