

## **Review**

### **The book of Acts shows us....**

1. What happens when the Holy Spirit infuses the church?
2. How the church functions when the Holy Spirit is absent.
3. What we are supposed to do and be today as the church of Jesus.

In our last lesson, we learned that no matter what you know don't do God's work without the Power of the Holy Spirit.

So turn with me in your bibles to **Acts 1:4-5, 8**, and let us find out what work we are supposed to be doing.

*Acts 1:4-5 (New Century Version)*

*4 Once when he was eating with them, he told them not to leave Jerusalem. He said, "Wait here to receive the promise from the Father which I told you about.*

*5 John baptized people with water, but in a few days, you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."*

*8 But when the Holy Spirit comes to you, you will receive power. You will be my witnesses—in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, in Samaria, and every part of the world."*

## **Today's Focus:** **Bearing Witness for Jesus**

### **What is a witness?**

A witness is someone who has seen something and can testify to it.

This is also true in the bible but much deeper. Let us try to understand the biblical definition of a witness.

OT: EID (Hebrew) - Ruth 4:1-9

NT: MARTUS (Greek) - Luke 24:45-48

*Ruth 4:9 (NCV) Then Boaz said to the elders and to all the people, "You are witnesses today. I am buying from Naomi everything that belonged to Elimelech and Kilion and Mahlon.*

*Luke 24:48 (NCV) You are witnesses of these things.*

**Witness in the Bible** – someone who has seen or experienced something important.

**Bearing Witness** – is when the witness shares what they have seen or experienced with someone.

## **Where are we to be His Witnesses?**

- a) Jerusalem - the city you are in.
- b) Judea – Region or county you are in – community nearby.
- c) Samaria – People you do not want anything to do with nearby.
- d) Every Part of the World – Wherever humans are found.

## **Instead of Witnessing we fall into the TRAP of .....**

- a) Focusing on me, my family, and my work.
- b) Neglecting our ‘Jerusalem’, our ‘Judea’, and our ‘Samaria’, and going overseas.
- c) Witnessing about the pastor's fine preaching, good singing, facility, good youth program, and wonderful work the church is doing.

**All of these may be good topics for discussion and to raise people's interest  
Until your conversation is about Jesus – his death, resurrection, the  
forgiveness of sin that is available, and repentance. You have not witnessed.**

**God will only empower those who talk about Him.**

## **A True Witness**

- 1) Is Holy Spirit-filled (Peter - Acts 2:4, 14-32); (Stephen - Acts 6:10)
- 2) Is Holy Spirit-directed (Philip - Acts 8:29); (Peter - Acts 10:19-20); (Paul and his companions - Acts 16:6-7)
- 3) Speaks what they know (Man born blind - John 9:25)
- 4) Speaks the truth (Paul - Acts 26)
- 5) Keeps to the point (Stephen - Acts 7)
- 6) Invites people to Christ (Woman at the Well - John 4:29)

### **Next Steps:**

- Did you pray and give your life to Jesus for the first time today? Email us at [pastorneil@covenantfamilychapel.org](mailto:pastorneil@covenantfamilychapel.org)
- Help Covenant Family Chapel reach more people by sending this message and the notes to someone.
- Visit <https://covenantfamilychapel.org> to listen to another message or listen on WFMD 930AM Radio station in Frederick on Sundays Mornings at 9:30 am and WWNL 1080AM & 103.9FM on Fridays at 3 pm in Pittsburg (PA, OHIO, MD, and WEST VIRGINIA). Thank You

# Growth Group Study Questions

For the week of February 12, 2023

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## **QUICK REVIEW**

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## **DIGGING DEEPER**

1. Who is a witness in the biblical sense?
2. Why should a witness be Holy Spirit Filled and Holy Spirit Directed?
3. What is the main work of a witness?
4. Read Acts 7 and discuss how Stephen kept to the point despite other topics in the discussion.

## **HOMEWORK**

Witness to one person before the end of February.

Please pray and ask the Holy Spirit to set you up with an opportunity.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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## **THE ACTS CHALLENGE**

Do you want to get more out of Acts than just hearing it during the Sunday Morning Services? There are 28 chapters in Acts. Try reading or listening to a chapter a day for 28 days and see how it will grow your understanding in our series on the Book of Acts—Holy Spirit Infused Church.

