



The Mission of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4-11)

Study Notes Handout: Week Two

It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority. 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. (Acts 1:7 - 8)

The geographical scope of Acts 1:8 provides a rough outline of the entire book: Jerusalem (1–7), Judea and Samaria (8–12), the ends of the earth (13–28). (New American Commentary)

The Good News was to spread, geographically, from Jerusalem, into Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. It would begin with the devout Jews in Jerusalem, spread to the mixed race in Samaria, and, finally, be offered to Gentiles all over the world. God's Good News has not reached its final destination if someone in your family, your workplace, your school, or your community hasn't heard the Good News about Jesus Christ. (New Life Application Study Bible)

1. Waiting Patiently for the Holy Spirit in Expectant Prayer (vs. 4 - 5, 14)

2. Looking Forward in Fresh Faith, not backward in Dead Tradition (vs. 6 - 7)

3. Being Empowered by the Holy Spirit to Witness until Christ Returns (vs. 8 - 11)

Questions for Reflection / Discussion:

- i. Do you find it difficult to wait patiently? How is God 'testing' your patience right now? What else is He trying to teach you in this experience? Do you pray more when you have to wait?

- ii. Like the disciples we also would like God to tell us 'times and dates' but He often doesn't. Can you think of a recent example where you were forced to depend more on the Holy Spirit?

- iii. Acts 1:8 teaches that we are empowered by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of witness. Who are some of the 'awakening souls' God has placed in your life to share Christ with?

Write their names down here and pray for them daily, asking the Holy Spirit to empower you to be His witness in their lives - _____



Personal Study Notes

⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command:
"Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised,
which you have heard me speak about.

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

Acts 1:4-5

Instructions Preparatory to Pentecost (1:3-5)

Christ's Legacy: The Call to Witness (1:6-8)

The Ascension of Christ (1:9-11)

Personal Prayer Points from this Passage:

Questions or Insights for Discussion:

1)

2)