

February 5, 2017  
The Story Continues...  
Acts 1:1-11



## Questions for Study and Group Discussion

\*\* Read Acts 1:1-11 as a group before answering these questions.

1. Mission statements and vision statements are a big deal in many companies and organizations. Explain why these sorts of statements that articulate what an organization is "about" can be so valuable.
2. The church should never be reduced to just an organization (it's so much more than that!), but it still has a mission. Imagine someone asked you what the "mission" of the church is – what the church should be "about." What are the top 3-4 things you would include in your response?
3. Read Acts 1:8 and Matthew 28:19-20 together as a group. These passages summarize the mission of the church in a clear way. As a group, develop a statement in your own words that captures the mission Jesus gives the church.
4. Look back at Acts 1:8. How does Jesus' statement that "you will be my witnesses" provide focus for the church's mission? What does it look like for a church to maintain this same focus on Jesus today?
5. In Acts 1:4, Jesus tells His followers to "...wait for the gift my Father promised." From the rest of the passage we know this "gift" is the Holy Spirit.
  - Why do you think it was important for Jesus' followers to wait for the Holy Spirit? Why is the power of the Holy Spirit so important for fulfilling the church's mission?
  - How does this help us understand the importance of depending on the Holy Spirit in our own lives?
  - Spend some time getting practical: What does it look like to depend on the Holy Spirit in your everyday life? What needs to continue? What needs to change?
6. In Acts 1:8 Jesus also gives us the scope of the church's mission: Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. How are you participating in this mission Jesus gives His followers – locally and/or globally? How might God want to use YOU to continue to fulfill this mission?
7. Identify one big personal "take-away" from this study of Acts 1:1-11. Share this with your group. How will this insight or application make a difference in your life this week?
8. In the book of Acts, we read about the beginning of the church and we discover what the early church prioritized. Are there specific things you're looking forward to or hoping to get out of this series on Acts that we're beginning at Brookside?
9. Challenge: Memorize 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."