

## Acts 1:1-11

### Hearing and Obeying

Hearing: (Read “Context” and then Acts 1:1-11. Then pray for God’s grace to understand.)

- Before we dive in, what are some big themes that stand out to you as significant in this passage? When you think of Jesus’ ascension (prior to tonight), what comes to mind? Is it significant?
- In vv 6-7, the disciples rightly assumed that Jesus’ resurrection implied that he was the world’s true lord and king, and that his kingdom would come to bear on earth as in heaven. But they were wrong in thinking it would happen right away (at least, in full). What are some things you can point to in the world as evidence that God’s kingdom has already come (partially), but not yet in full? What about in your personal life? Why the delay?
- In v 8, Jesus says the disciples would be his “witnesses,” testifying to all the world of his resurrection and coming kingdom. He also said they would be empowered by the Holy Spirit to do so. In what ways have you had the opportunity to be a “witness” to the gospel? In what ways have you sensed the Spirit’s help in doing so?
- In vv 9-11, the “two men” explain to the disciples Jesus’ ascension to power (at the right hand of God), and the assurance that he would come again (to fully establish his kingdom on earth as in heaven). This gave the disciples assurance that Jesus would be actively working *with* them and that their work in the Lord would not be *vain*—he would finish it. With this same assurance, in what ways do you sense the Spirit calling you to be a witness in this season of life (be specific: at home..., at work..., etc)? What are some risks you would be willing to take if you knew that, ultimately, you could not fail?

Obeying (application):

- The main idea is that Jesus is still at work in the world, bringing his kingdom to bear on earth as in heaven. Only, now, he is working through his spirit-empowered witnesses (the church), to continue the work. Reflecting on the ways his kingdom has *not yet* come in full, discuss how you—as a Life Group— can work with him to further the kingdom in a concrete way that bears witness to the gospel. (Clarification: this should be a group activity)

### Announcements

- There are just two weeks left of Life Group this spring, but that means Summer Discipleship is just around the corner. Be on the lookout for our summer offerings and ways to sign up!