

Beacon Church – from Sunday 8th April 2018

LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS FOR SMALL GROUPS BASED ACTS 1:1-11

Partnering with the Presence of the Holy Spirit

I introduced some overarching themes for us to look at together for the foreseeable future, which are shown below.

Knowing God – Hosting His Presence – UP “But the people who KNOW their God...

Knowing Yourself – Knowing Your Position – IN ...shall STAND firm...

Knowing Call – Taking Action – OUT ...and TAKE ACTION” Daniel 11:32

We shall initially focus on “Knowing God” by going through a series of talks based on the book of Acts; learning from how the early church spread, achieving their colossal mission to reach the nation’s through partnering first with the Holy Spirit and hosting his presence.

Discuss why Jesus commanded the disciples to stay in Jerusalem.

Vs4 “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...”

WAIT – DON’T GO BACK

- What would the challenges be for the disciples if they returned to their home town of Galilee? (sentimentality, not looking forward, self-doubt as it was not the same without Jesus and his previous miracles)
- What can we learn from this in the context of our lives individually and as a church?

WAIT – STAY HERE

- What were the challenges for the disciples remaining in Jerusalem? (Danger, hostility, shame, disappointment etc)
- Through his presence empowering us we can face fears, deal with disappointment and navigate through testing times. (share any current situations in the group - and pray)

WAIT – DON’T RUSH ON

- Note the order of events (1st) “You receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; (2nd) and you will be my witnesses”
The encounter must always come before the mission – Do you agree, if so why?
- What can we change in our lifestyle to avoid rushing off with manmade activity before waiting for our team leader (the Holy Spirit)

Discuss the following quote...

“the measure we are aware of our need for Him is usually the measure we become aware of him”
Bill Johnson (Pastor of Bethel Church, California)

These are just a few questions, but rather than simply running through, aim to draw out from the group members what the Holy Spirit was challenging them with individually, and discuss the next steps / actions for follow up. Thanks