

## Acts 1:1-11 Discussion Questions

- Ben opened up with an example of “not reading the fine print” before a purchase. Why is it important to “count the cost” before following Christ? (see Luke 14:28)
  - Are there any areas of your own discipleship that you didn’t expect and discovered later?
- The author, Luke, refers to what Jesus began to “do and teach.” Why is it significant that Jesus only “began” to do these things? What does that suggest about what comes next?
- Jesus spends forty days with the disciples “speaking about the kingdom of God” (v. 3). What does the resurrection prove about Jesus and His kingdom?
  - What is God’s kingdom like? What did the disciples get right about it, and what were they mistaken about? (see Luke 17:20-21)
- Jesus orders the disciples to stay in Jerusalem (v. 4). What does this suggest about His authority?
  - How would you answer Ben’s question: “Is Jesus your consultant or your commander?”
- What are the two kinds of “baptism” referred to in verse 5?
  - How can we know we have received the Holy Spirit?
  - What is the danger of reading ourselves into the place of the disciples in the situation? (JV vs. Varsity Christians - see Romans 8:9)

- What is the danger of the opposite error, trying to serve Jesus without depending on the Spirit?
- What are some areas of your life where you are especially tempted to operate by your own strength rather than relying on the Spirit?
- What kind of power does the Spirit give believers (v. 8)? And what is that power given for?
- Jesus doesn't give the disciples a detailed timetable for the future. Instead, he gives them a mission. What is it?
  - How might that mission challenge our own sense of what's most important?
- A "witness" is a courtroom title. Why do you think Jesus used this term to describe what his disciples would do?
  - A witness doesn't have all the answers, but he knows some things with certainty. How should this shape our perspective in sharing Christ with others?
  - A witness speaks verbally. Why are words necessary in sharing Christ with others? Why are good works not enough?
  - What barriers do you face in sharing the gospel with others? Are those barriers primarily outside or within you? What truths would help remove those barriers if you dwelled on them?
- Ben mentioned that some people may misunderstand us when we share the gospel. Why is this risk worth it? How can we come to accept this risk?

- Ben said a witness is not responsible for the “verdict.” How can this encourage our efforts at evangelism?
- Jesus said His mission will reach “to the ends of the earth.” That includes DC. What are the places and people God has already put around you where you can bear witness to Christ?
- Ben closed by asking, “Are you giving the best of your life to God and His purposes, or are you giving Him the leftovers?” How would you honestly answer?
  - If there is one shift you’d like to make this fall to be on mission for God, what would it be?